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DENMARK DKR. 40.00
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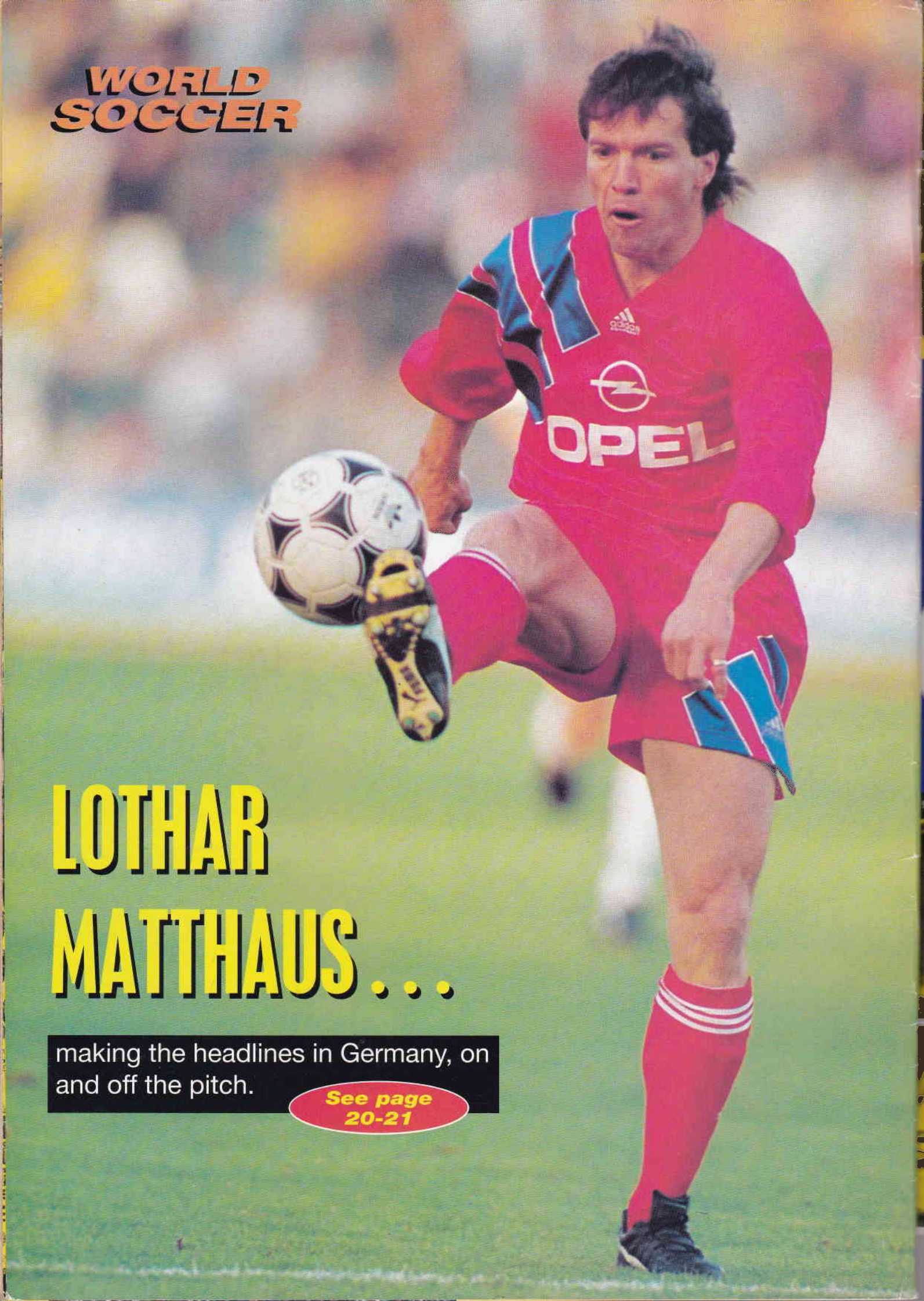

WORLD SOCCER

LOTHAR MATTHAUS...

making the headlines in Germany, on and off the pitch.

See page 20-21

WORLD SOCCER
OCTOBER 1993 VOL.34 No.1

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ESM
EUROPEAN SPORTS MAGAZINES

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Published by
ipcmagazines
Distributed by ***IPC Marketforce***

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The legendary Billy Meredith.

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WORLD SOCCER
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DON'T RUIN THE DREAM

Michael Laudrup's plea for the kids

MICHAEL LAUDRUP, Barcelona's Danish striker, played some wonderful football in 1992.

His 1993 has been happy enough. His return to the Danish national team, after 33 months, augurs well for an even happier 1994.

Last season Laudrup was voted Player of the Year by Spanish fans, sportswriters, players and managers alike.

Had he put aside his differences with Richard Moller Nielsen in time to contribute to Denmark's European Championship, he surely would have improved on his 22 points and seventh place in the European Footballer of the Year poll, one rung below his younger brother Brian.

But Michael, after two years with Lazio and four at Juventus, joined Barcelona in 1989 fed up with the drudgeries which pervaded Italian soccer at the time.

At Nou Camp he has strengthened his belief that the public stand a better chance of seeing attractive football if the players are allowed to enjoy themselves.

His withdrawal from the national team was down to his search for poetry in motion rather than Moller Nielsen's more prosaic approach.

WORLD SOCCER's correspondent in Spain, **GRAHAM TURNER,** talks to the man who is now back in action wrapping Danish dynamite in a velvet glove.

WS: ***Why the sudden change of heart?***
ML: I don't want to make a big thing out of it. I left because I didn't like the style of play and because I didn't like being described as the leader. I have matured after so many seasons under pressure, and the Danish team have changed, too. The team felt I can do a job for them and I don't want to be remembered as a player who shirked responsibilities.

WS: ***Denmark struggling to qualify for the World Cup, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden and Bolivia in the headlines. What's happening to the world game?***
ML: Difficult to say. It's strange. Among what you might call the big countries only Italy seem to be playing good football. Others, like Holland, Germany, England, France and Spain, seem to be having difficulties in maintaining standards. I don't understand why. Maybe a simple lack of outstanding talent. Three or four players used to emerge every year. Not a Maradona or a Van Basten, but good players. Now they are hard to find and the transfer market reflects this. The Italians and the Spaniards haven't found much to buy recently. I hope it isn't a trend for the future because at this rate football in 2000 will just be about running, running and running. The fittest and the fastest will win.

WS: ***Why has Scandinavian soccer come to the fore?***
ML: We are demonstrating that strength and fitness go a long way these days, whereas 10 or 15 years ago they weren't enough. But a while ago I saw Germany scrape home 3-2 against Luxembourg. Then you get Denmark going to Latvia or Lithuania and drawing 0-0.

That's soccer today. Big nations are so short of talent they have increasing problems, especially away. Before Denmark's match in Albania I detected a tremendous fear of losing.

But the saddest thing is that kids like to have idols and they assume that the players in the national team are the best. Then they see that nine or ten of them base their game on strength, while players who base their game on skill are viewed with suspicion.

The message for the kids is clear. If they dream of playing in the national team they have to aim for strength. It's no use dedicating time to improving skill, because it won't guarantee a place in the team.

WS: ***You're describing a vicious circle. Is there a way out?***
ML: It's very difficult to change people when they're older, but you can change children. I maintain that the people who coach kids have a very special duty, to tell them that technique and enjoyment are the most important things. Then, when they're 14 or 15, you can get to work on running, bodybuilding or whatever.

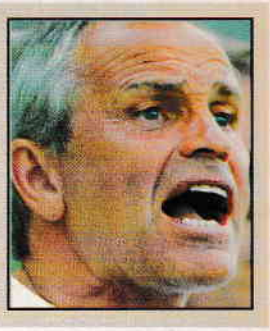
Until then they should be allowed to enjoy the game. If you start telling them at eight that they have to do gym work instead of enjoying themselves with a football . . . it may not be the immediate end of the game but it's the writing on the wall. I'm glad I'm not 12 or 13. I would be very sad — maybe not even dreaming of becoming a pro.

THERE were signs that Michael Laudrup and Richard Moller Nielsen (right) did not see eye to eye soon after Sepp Piontek left his job as Danish national team boss in April 1990.

The autumn of that year produced a drab draw with Northern Ireland in Belfast, followed by a 2-0 defeat by Yugoslavia in Copenhagen which made qualification for the European Championship finals a remote dream.

Michael and brother Brian then announced their withdrawal from the national team. At that point Michael, who had marked his debut by scoring in a 2-1 defeat by Norway in Oslo on June 15, 1982 had amassed 27 goals in 64 games. Brian returned in April 1992 admitting that, four and a half years younger than Michael, he needed international projection.

While he was helping Denmark to win the European Championship. Michael was on holiday in the Caribbean insisting that he had no plans for an international return.



WS: ***Who are the players you would prefer the kids to look at?***
ML: At the moment, Van Basten. I have always said that football needs goalscorers and it also needs great footballers. The only one who is both is Van Basten. Maybe, in a year or two, Roberto Baggio. Otherwise you can split the scene into groups of scorers like Stoichkov, Papin and a few others, then you have the great footballers who operate in midfield, or even in defence, like Maldini and Baresi.

WS: ***Which teams would be on your hit parade of enjoyment?***
ML: When we play well, I enjoy watching Barcelona. Then Ajax, Benfica and Milan, even if they have changed a fair bit over the past couple of years. People can easily get the wrong idea. Playing with eight attackers isn't the secret. You can tell when sides are not enjoying their game. But even then, the most important thing is the result.

Challenged . . . Michael Laudrup holds off Ricardo of Brazil.

A lot of teams play good football and a lot of teams find the formula for winning most of their matches. Very few do both. We and Ajax and Milan have had the luck in recent years to combine the two.

For example, when Barcelona won the Champions Cup we had to beat Benfica to reach the final. I thought they were the best team I had ever faced. But they didn't win. There are teams like that. You say "Very good, but . . . " and the "but" is important.

You have to play well and win so that everybody talks about you and you're cited as a model. That's why people talk about Barcelona and Milan.

WS: ***How important is the coach and his attitude?***
ML: My situation with the national team says how much importance I give to that subject. The trainer or coach or whatever you prefer to call him is basically two persons. I could coach a team, telling them how and when to warm up and exactly what to do. Choosing the players for the match is more difficult because it's not just a question of picking the best 11, it's choosing those who are right for that particular match.

Then you need to have enough tactical options to be flexible during the game. This is basically where you judge if a trainer is good enough or not. Then there is the personal side, which is very important. If you have 16, 20 or 24 players, they are 16, 20 or 24 different personalities and you shouldn't treat them as if they were all the same.

What is a very good way to handle me might be an awful way to handle someone else.

I've had trainers who were very good as trainers and others who weren't so good but were better on the personal side. The only one I've had who was very good on the training and man-management sides was Giovanni Trapattoni at Juventus. You don't have to be a disciplinarian or get angry all the time. Nor do you have to be kind all the time. You have to find the balance. I remember at the start of one season with Juve we took 16 points from eight matches. Now I'm a fairly level-headed person with my feet on the ground but even I found it difficult not to puff my chest out and think "We're good, eh?" But at training he was always watching like a hawk and saying something.

It's always easier to take criticism when you're winning. On the other hand, when we were playing badly or the team looked out of shape, as long as he could see that we were doing our best to make things work, he was always nice. "Just take it easy, take it easy" was his first message. When you played badly, he helped. When you played well, he was there keeping an eye on things.

WS: ***Do you see yourself as a trainer or educator in the future?***
ML: No. It means carrying on with the same life. Training camps and so on. I wouldn't mind training every morning at 10 and then going home and doing something else. But it's not like that. It's the travelling, the hotels, the training camps . . . that's why I've said I'll hang up my boots at 32, go back to Denmark and live with my family.

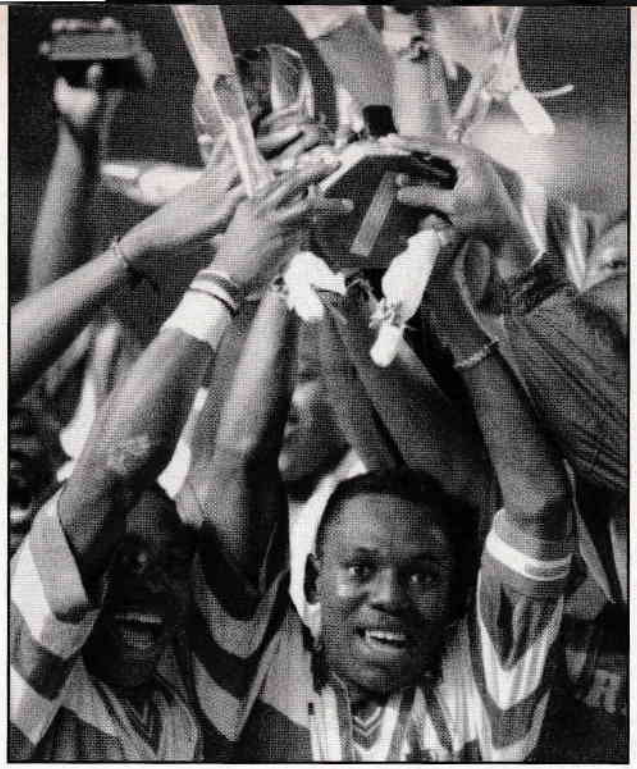
WS: ***A lot of people say that . . .***
ML: My idea is to start another life after 14 or 15 years under the pressures of football at this level. I could go on playing until I'm 36 or 37. But if you carry on till that age, it's too late to change. Morten Olsen is a good example. He stopped at 39 after 20 years and it's virtually impossible to start another life at that age. He came back to Denmark, started in management and ended up having a hard time.

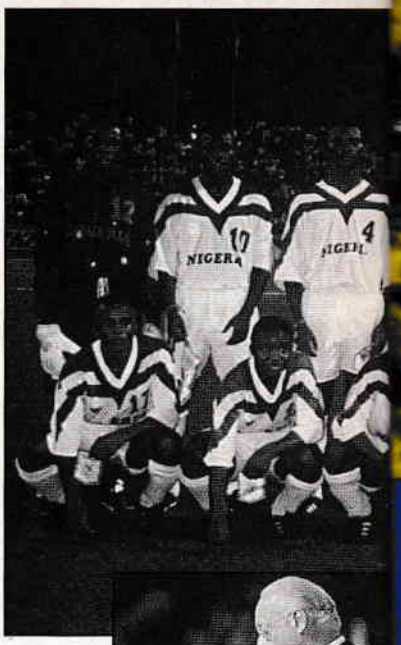
WS: ***Do you think you can break with football?***
ML: No! I want to carry on playing until I'm 70! But at a different level and in the veterans leagues which are now being formed in Denmark. Players like Klas Berggreen and Preben Elkjaer are playing and I think there's going to be a European Championship next year.

WS: ***Your business interests, dealing with wine and art, seem to reflect the elegance and culture of the Laudrup we see on the pitch.***
ML: Thanks! I'd never really seen it that way. But I want to add new things to my life, and the money I've earned means I can do what I really like. Over the years I've met a lot of people I would like to stay in touch with, and maybe one way of doing that would be to work as a journalist or on TV from time to time. Covering a World Cup or the Olympics or something like that.

WS: ***Back to more immediate topics. You were among the people who condemned the Milan-style overbooking of foreign players which took hold in Italy last season. Now Brian is one of half a dozen at Milan and Romario's arrival means you have a similar situation at Barcelona.***
ML: That makes four. Four is one thing and six is another. Frankly, it depends on results. If we play well and get results the problems will be few and far between. If we string together some poor performances and bad results, we could have big problems.

U 17
JAPAN '93
FIFA / JVC CUP





The Green Eaglets have landed

BY JONATHAN SHALLARD

NIGERIA'S teenage footballers are back where they started: on top of the world.

Eight years after capturing FIFA'S first under-16 tournament in China, the Green Eaglets swept all before them and landed the FIFA/JVC Cup in convincing, exhilarating style, the final triumph coming in an unprecedented all-African final against near neighbours and rivals from Ghana.

"Two years out of international competition because of the FIFA ban made it all the more difficult to build a new team — but we've gone from nowhere to World Champions," said a jubilant Nigerian coach Fanny Amun after the Tokyo Final, referring to the suspension that FIFA had imposed after Nigeria had been found guilty of fielding over-age youth players.

"If we can keep this team together, there's not only the World Youth Championship at home in two years' time, but we could be back here in Japan for the World Cup in 2002."

That may seem like long-term planning in the extreme, but Amun's euphoria was understandable. Nigeria had gone on a goal rampage from the start, totally dedicated to attack, and although the early pace of eight goals in their first game and another four in the second proved a bit much even for these young marauders, there was never any doubt where their priorities lay and that this was the best team in the tournament.

There were, again, some observers who wondered about the physique of the young Nigerians, but after coming off a two-year ban for precisely that offence, it is hard to imagine that Nigeria would have committed the same misdemeanour again, and so soon.

"Quick goals are our speciality," pronounced Amun — and here too, the facts proved him right. Three times his proteges struck early and decisively, and it remains a hypothetical question how the team would have reacted to going a goal behind; given their ability to pressure their opponents from the start, that is not surprising.

If Nigeria had another secret weapon, it was an even more admirable one. Their astonishing record of only two yellow cards in six games (and at least one of those hardly merited) was evidence not only of their sense of fair play and discipline, but also of such total concentration on the positive things in the game that they simply had no time for the negative. Sounds naive? Maybe, but it worked, didn't it?

Ghana's disappointment was shattering, the second Final defeat in a FIFA youth championship this year. But with Under-17 victory two years ago and bronze medals at the Barcelona Olympics, Ghana have a record without parallel.

Bobby Charlton, whose soccer school in England had hosted the Ghanaians for three weeks before the Japan finals, knows this. "They're marvellous," he said, "so naturally gifted. Give them time, they'll be a superb senior team."

So far the seeds sown at Under-17 level have not reaped as rich a harvest as may have been hoped. Life has other attractions for teenagers and many boys are inevitably lost to the game, even after having made an early impact. It's a tendency which FIFA may need to think about.

Another cause for reflection is the kick-in, a controversial experiment in Japan and inconclusive enough to be prolonged in a senior European league. While the kick-in certainly achieved its aim of creating goal chances, although only four of these actually produced goals in a high-scoring tournament, it tended to produce congested goalmouths and also took too much time.

THE ABCD of success and failure

First round

Group A
(Tokyo and Kobe)
HOSTS Japan could hardly have had a tougher opening match than the holders, Ghana. And the game could hardly have started more disastrously, the home defence allowing Joseph Fameye to throw himself at a long pass from Sebastian Barnes and head the Africans into a fifth-minute lead.

But although clearly outplayed for much of the first half, Japan should have equalised from one of three good chances.

Ghana went on to score four goals against both Mexico and the desolate Italians, while Japan went through to the last four in dramatic fashion: having taken the lead against Mexico, their celebrating players allowed Edgar Garcia to equalise from the centre-circle at the restart, and needed a Naoki Matsuda header after 57 minutes to win.

Group B
(Nagoya and Gifu)
THIS was the Goals Group, thanks largely to the rampant Nigerians, who knocked in eight against Canada in the first match and set the pace right from the start.

Australia shocked Argentina with a couple of early goals in their opener but the South Americans rallied to equalise.

The defence cracked under Nigerian pressure in the second half of their second game, however, while the Aussies put another five past the hapless Canadians.

After Australia had held Nigeria to two second-half goals on the third day, Argentina needed to beat the Canadian whipping-boys by seven clear goals — but could manage only five.

So Australia went into the last eight with the dominant Nigerians.

Group C
(Kyoto)
COLOMBIA received an early setback against Qatar and never recovered, although finally the other teams in the group, the US and the RCS, went through after sharing four goals in their opener.

Juan Madrid got Colombia's winner over the US, but the Americans came back in their third game, a tough affair highlighted by three Judah Cooks goals but marred when Al Rawashda broke a leg.

RCS duly completed their programme with competent wins over Colombia and Qatar to accompany the States into the quarter-finals.

Group D
(Hiroshima)
CROWDS were small in Hiroshima to see the least appealing of the four groups, with Tunisia clearly outclassed from the start and Chile proving the surprise package, excellently organised by promising midfielder Sebastian Rozantal.

The South Americans rallied from two down in an at-times vicious opener against China to draw on a waterlogged pitch, then exploited Tunisia's defensive weaknesses to win 2-0.

Poland, meanwhile, required the excellent midfielder Maciej Terlecki as a half-time sub to rally them against an improved China, but let a 3-1 lead against Chile slip to a 3-3 draw which ensured that the best two teams made the last eight.

Parting shot . . . Nigeria captain Wilson Oruma lifts the trophy (far right).

Group picture . . . Nigeria (above).

Opening ceremony . . . Joao Havelange addresses the crowd (left).

Japanese go so close

Quarter-finals

JAPAN went out with a flourish in Gifu, although the 20,000 crowd were horrified to see Nigeria's Wilson Oruma head a right-wing cross strongly past Kiyomitsu Kobari after only 55 seconds.

The Africans got another right on half-time from a Festus Odini header, but in the second half the Japanese threw everything into attack.

Hidetoshi Nakata headed them back into the game after 56 minutes and the Nigerian defence needed to survive some hair-raising moments late in the game, but overall the better of the two teams was the one to qualify.

In Kobe, Australia's dogged resistance took the game against favourites Ghana into extra time, thanks above all to a series of superb saves by Paul Lapic.

Daniel Addo got the decisive goal with a thundering drive 12 minutes into the sudden-death period, although most sympathies were with the Aussies.

A couple of goalkeeping errors ruined the chances of the Czechs and Slovaks against Chile in Kyoto.

Jakub Kafka conceded an unnecessary penalty in the first half, Hector Tapia hit a spectacular mid-air volley for the second, and Manuel Neira added two within a minute, one while Kafka was tending a colleague he had injured.

The United States fell apart in their quarter-final in Hiroshima, with the clearly superior Poland taking control from the start and superior in every department.

The 3-0 scoreline was, if anything, kind to the Americans.

Double-top for Africa

Semi-finals

GHANA and Nigeria made sure of an unprecedented all-African Final with clear wins over Chile and Poland.

In Tokyo, the best early chance fell to Chile's Rozental, but to his wrong foot: through alone, he was obliged to shoot with his ineffective right foot, and the ball went harmlessly wide of an inviting target. And that was that.

Ghana took over even more comprehensively, claiming a half-time lead through Fameye who followed up after Essuman Dadzie had outjumped the Chilean defence and shot against the goalie's legs.

The second was superb, Daniel Addo chipping into Emmanuel Duah's path and his little cross headed into an unguarded net by Daniel Armah. Duah finished it off with a third on the whistle.

In Hiroshima, Poland were on the receiving end of the usual Nigerian blitz and shored up their defence as best they could, encouraged only by the over-hasty manner in which the Africans wasted a string of good chances.

But two close-range goals in five minutes early in the second half — the first a header by Oruma and the second by Anosike — effectively polished off the Poles, even though they recorded a consolation goal in the last minute of the game through Szymlowiak.

Bronze for Chile

Third place play-off

A bright first half was marred only by the extraordinary failure of the more aggressive Poles, in particular, to convert any of the clear chances they produced, admittedly not always so easy in the strong wind blowing as a left-over from the passing typhoon.

As it was, it needed an own goal by Dante Poli and a highly suspect late penalty sought and found by the same player and converted by Rozental to take the game to a penalty shoot-out. Chilean goalie Ariel Salas had his moment of glory, saving two Polish kicks to give Chile, the poorer of the two teams overall, the bronze medals.

Nigeria too good for Ghana

Final

NIGERIA began as they always did — all-out attack, and the game was only three minutes old when Wilson Oruma propelled himself into a crowded goalmouth to head a deflected Celestine Babayaro kick-in past helpless goalkeeper Ali Jarra.

Ghana never really recovered, even if Emmanuel Duah hit a post with a miscued shot after 20 minutes, and Daniel Addo's impact on the game was largely stifled by the powerful Pascal Ojigwe in midfield.

For the most part, however, the two teams allowed their exuberance to get the better of their composure, and accurate shooting was at a premium.

No sign of Nigeria's offensive relaxing in the second half, as Ogbebor replaced Odinik, and with seven minutes to go a four-man move swept unstoppably down the right wing before little Peter Anosike robbed an uncharacteristically careless Osei Kuffour on his six-yard line, dummied Jarra and scored easily.

Ghana rallied admirably but didn't really believe, James Nanor shooting narrowly wide twice before Joseph Fameye picked up the consolation goal three minutes into injury time.

To Nigeria the JVC Cup, to Daniel Addo the adidas Golden Ball as the Best Player of the tournament, to Wilson Oruma the Golden Shoe as the top scorer, Nigeria ran away with the Fair Play Award.

The MasterCard all-star team consisted of: Lapic (Australia), Barnes (Ghana), Kukielka (Poland), Celestine Babayaro (Nigeria), Edusei (Ghana), Zaizen (Japan), Daniel Addo (Ghana), Kanu (Nigeria), Oruma (Nigeria), Terlecki (Poland), Rozental (Chile).

WORLD UNDER-17 CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A

JAPAN 0
GHANA 1 (Fameye 5)
ITALY 1 (Totti 57)
MEXICO 2 (Santa Cruz 38, de Dios 69)

JAPAN 0
ITALY 0

GHANA 4 (Dadzie 38, 62, Addo 52, Duah 77)
MEXICO 1 (Santa Cruz 56)

JAPAN 2 (Funakoshi 6, Matsuda 58)
MEXICO 1 (de Dios 7)

GHANA 4 (Duah 22, Addo 29, Fameye 32, Dadzie 71)
ITALY 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GHANA	3	3	0	0	9	1	6
JAPAN	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Mexico	3	1	0	2	4	7	2
Italy	3	0	1	2	1	6	1

GROUP B

AUSTRALIA 2 (Naglieri 6, Ristevski 27)
ARGENTINA 2 (Grande 34, Biagini 57)

CANADA 0
NIGERIA 8 (Kanu 1, 24, 65, Anosike 36, 68, Babangida 43, 77, Odini 76)

AUSTRALIA 5 (Carter 5, 12, Bilokapic 48,55, Bosevski 68)
CANADA 0

ARGENTINA 0
NIGERIA 4 (Oruma 60, 79, Anosike 62, Kanua 66)

AUSTRALIA 0
NIGERIA 2 (Kanu 51, Oruma 68)

ARGENTINA 5 (Vilarino 13, Dominguez 24, Grande 33, Biagini 61, Cantoro 70)
CANADA 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NIGERIA	3	3	0	0	14	0	6
AUSTRALIA	3	1	1	1	7	4	3
Argentina	3	1	1	1	7	6	3
Canada	3	0	0	3	0	18	0

GROUP C

COLOMBIA 0
QATAR 2 (Al Otaibi 10, 66)

US 2 (Venditti 12, Armas 52)
RCS 2 (Sionko 37, Ruman 42)

COLOMBIA 2 (Ciciliano 24, Madrid 42)
US 1 (Cooks 41)

QATAR 0
RCS 2 (Spanik 8, Ruman 78)

COLOMBIA 1 (Ciciliano 66)
RCS 3 (Vapenik 28, Rada 56, Novota 77)

QATAR 1 (Al Enazi 55)
US 5 (Neditti 13, Moore 14, Cooks 47, 53, 72)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
RCS	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
US	3	1	1	1	8	5	3
Colombia	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
Qatar	3	1	0	2	3	7	2

GROUP D

CHILE 2 (Neira 62, Rozental 67)
CHINA 2 (Genwi 18, Xia 60)

TUNISIA 1 (Arouri 54)
POLAND 3 (Koztowniak 26, Terlicki 57, Wyczalkowski 79)

CHILE 2 (Tapia 4, Neria 48)
TUNISIA 0

CHINA 0
POLAND 2 (Kosztowniak 48, Andruszczac 78)

CHILE 3 (Osorio 38, Rozental 61, Neira 67)
POLAND 3 (Orlinski 14, 34, Wichniarek 43)

CHINA 0
TUNISIA 1 (Arouri 23)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
POLAND	3	2	1	0	8	4	5
CHILE	3	1	2	0	7	5	4
Tunisia	3	1	0	2	2	5	2
China	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

QUARTER-FINALS

GHANA 1 (Addo 92)
AUSTRALIA 0
After sudden death extra time

NIGERIA 2 (Oruma 1, Odini 40)
JAPAN 1 (Nakata)

RCS 1 (Ruman 40)
CHILE 4 (Rozental 11, Tapia 31, Neira 65, 66)

POLAND 3 (Terlecki 39, Kosztowniak 59, Magiera 80)
US 0

SEMI-FINALS

GHANA 3 (Fameye 29, Armah 48, Duah 80)
CHILE 0

NIGERIA 2 (Oruma 52, Anosike 57)
POLAND 1 (Szymkowiak 79)

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

CHILE 1 (Poli og 26)
POLAND 1 (Rozental pen 77)
After sudden death extra time
Chile won 4-2 on pens

FINAL

GHANA 1 (Fameye 83)
NIGERIA 2 (Oruma 3, Anosike 74)

Marseille kicked out after FIFA chief gets tough

EUROPEAN champions Marseille were sensationally expelled from the Champions Cup by UEFA after the various international authorities lost patience with French time-wasting tactics.

UEFA's executive committee said the decision was "provisional and preventative" and was based on a criminal investigation by French authorities which had indicated "that an irregularity had occurred."

General secretary Gerhard Aigner said the French Federation had been given two further days to nominate a replacement for Marseille, the first French club to win a European cup.

UEFA, like world authority FIFA a week earlier, said the allegations that Marseille players and an official had tried to fix a league match last season against Valenciennes was bringing the game into disrepute. UEFA based its decision on a report from the French league's disciplinary committee, which had questioned leading figures implicated in the case but felt it still lacked sufficient proof to impose punishment.

French Federation president Jean Fournet-Fayard had claimed that football's disciplinary machinery should await the outcome of any judicial action. But FIFA and UEFA had insisted the issue fell within the immediate jurisdiction of the Federation's disciplinary authority. FIFA even threatened France with suspensions from the World Cup were action not taken.

Marseille had been due to open their defence of the Champions Cup against AEK Athens.

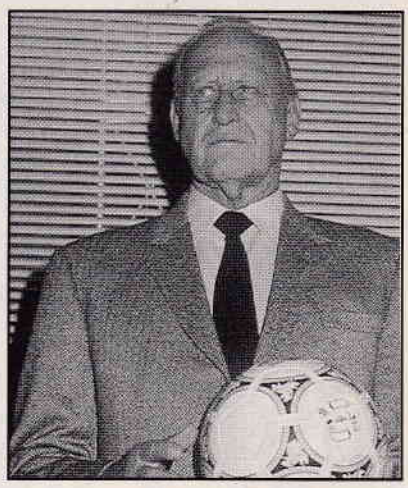
Noel Le Graet, president of the French league, said the decision — or lack of it — was entirely correct in the circumstances.

He said: "The commission had no flagrant proof. The important thing is to rid French soccer of the corrupt practices, if they exist. That will take time, but the truth must come out."

The speed with which UEFA kicked Tbilisi Dynamo out of the Champions Cup for trying to bribe the referee of their preliminary round tie against Linfield only served to underline French sloth.

UEFA found the Georgians guilty of offering a $45,000 bribe to the referee and his linesmen before the tie in Tbilisi which Dynamo won 2-1 on August 18. Pending any appeal by Tbilisi, Linfield go through to the first round proper to face the Danes of FC Copenhagen.

KEIR RADNEDGE



Pressure . . . Joao Havelange.

Argentina humiliated as Colombia reach World Cup finals.

Pleasure . . . Alvarez, Cordoba and Valderrama celebrate Colombia's amazing win.

COLOMBIA reached the World Cup finals for only the fifth time in their history after scoring a sensational 5-0 victory over Argentina in Buenos Aires.

A 60,000 crowd watched in disbelief as Fredy Rincon and Faustino Asprilla — with two goals apiece — led the rout of the former world champions. Argentina must now beat Australia in a lucky loser play-off if they are to reach the finals.

They were lucky indeed since Paraguay could have qualified for the play-off by defeating Peru. Instead, Paraguay drew 2-2 and finished a point behind Argentina in third place in Group A.

Rincon shot Colombia ahead in the River Plate stadium in the 41st minute. Asprilla extended the lead one minute after the interval and created a third for Rincon in the 73rd minute. Asprilla pounced on a defensive blunder two minutes later for a fourth and then laid on the fifth for Bayern Munich's Adolfo Valencia with six minutes remaining.

In Group B, Brazil maintained their revival by defeating Venezuela 4-0 with goals from Ricardo Gomes (two), Palhina and Evair.

Riyadh return

THE second Intercontinental Cup will be held in Riyadh in January 1995.

Peter Velappan, head of the Asian Football Confederation, announced the news while attending the final of the World Under-17 Championship in Tokyo.

This time round, the event will be contested by the continental champions of Asia, Africa, CONCACAF, South America and, for the first time, Europe.

Argentina won the inaugural event, played in Riyadh — the Saudi Arabian capital — last October.

REVISED EUROPEAN FIRST ROUND DRAWS

CHAMPIONS CUP
(September 15 and 29)

FC Aarau v Milan
AIK Stockholm v Sparta Prague
IA Akranes v Feyenoord
Galatasaray v Cork City
HJK Helsinki v Anderlecht
Kiev Dynamo v Barcelona
Kispest-Honved v Manchester United
Lech Poznan v Beitar Jerusalem
Marseille v AEK Athens
FC Porto v Floriana
Rangers v Levski Sofia
Rosenborg Trondheim v FK Austria
Skonto Riga v Moscow Spartak
Steaua Bucharest v Croatia Zagreb
Tbilisi Dynamo v FC Copenhagen
Werder Bremen v Minsk Dynamo

CUP-WINNERS CUP
(Sep 14/15 and 28/29)

APOEL Nicosia v Paris Saint-Germain
Bayer Leverkusen v Zbrojovka Brno
Benfica v GKS Katowice
Besiktas v Kosice
CSKA Sofia v Balzers (Lie)
Degerfors v Parma
Hajduk Split v Ajax Amsterdam
Innsbruck v Ferencvaros
Lillestrom v Torino
Moscow Torpedo v Maccabi Haifa
Odense BK v Arsenal
Panathinaikos v Shelbourne
Real Madrid v Lugano
Standard Liege v Cardiff
Univ. Craiova v Havnar HB
Valur v Aberdeen

UEFA CUP
(Sep 14/15 and 29/29)

Norrkoping (Swe) v Mechelen (Bel)
Nantes (Fra) v Valencia (Spa)
FC Reykjavik (Ice) v MTK Budapest (Hun)
Kuusysi Lahti (Fin) v Waregem (Bel)
Crusaders (NI) v Servette (Swi)
Brondby (Den) v Dundee United (Sco)
FC Twente (Hol) v Bayern Munich (Ger)
Karlsruhe SC (Ger) v PSV Eindhoven (Hol)
Moscow Dynamo v Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger)
Bor. Dortmund v Spartak Vladikavkaz (Rus)
Bohemians (Ire) v Bordeaux (Fra)
Young Boys (Swi) v Celtic (Sco)
Aalborg BK (Den) v La Coruna (Spa)
Norwich City (Eng) v Vitesse Arnhem (Hol)
Hearts (Sco) v Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Slavia Prague (Cze) v OFI Crete (Gre)
US Luxembourg (Lux) v Boavista (Por)
Slovan Bratislava (Slk) v Aston Villa (Eng)
Lazio (Ita) v Lokomotiv Plovdiv (Bul)
Osters IF (Swe) v Kongsvinger (Nor)
Admira Wacker (Aut) v Dnepropetrovsk (Ukr)
Internazionale (Ita) v Rapid Bucharest (Rom)
Botev Plovdiv (Bul) v Olympiakos (Gre)
Vac FC (Hun) v Apollon Limassol (Cyp)
Kocaelispor (Tur) v Sporting Lisbon (Por)
Juventus (Ita) v Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus)
Austria Salzburg (Aut) v Dunajska Streda (Slk)
Gloria Bistrita (Rom) v Maribor Branik (Sln)
Tenerife (Spa) v Monaco (Fra)
Antwerp (Bel) v Maritimo (Por)
Trabzonspor (Tur) v Valetta (Mal)
Dinamo Bucharest (Rom) v Cagliari (Ita)

GOALS RAIN IN SPAIN

THE Spanish season opened with a flood of goals as Real Madrid, Barcelona and Athletic Bilbao each chalked up three-goal victories.

Real opened the season on the Saturday with a 4-1 demolition at Osasuna. Alfonso scored twice just before the interval and Butragueno and Michel added goals late on.

The following day Barcelona, who have won the League title three years in a row, beat Real Sociedad 3-0 with Brazilian striker Romario scoring a hat-trick on his debut.

Romario's feat was matched at the San Mames in Bilbao, where Athletic's 19-year-old striker Julen Guerrero blasted a hat-trick in a 4-1 victory over Albacete.

Commentary

Keir Radnedge

Back home . . . Bernd Schuster has returned to Germany.

Schuster's return puts Vogts in a quandary

Is team-building overrated at international level? Or is it merely a concept created to keep national bosses in their jobs, justify full-time appointments through part-time match schedules and generally raise a fog of phoney purpose and mystery around the status quo?

I ask these questions because of the media campaign developing in Germany for the World Cup recall of that crusty old warhorse, Bernd Schuster.

Schuster last played for his country when it was known as West Germany, on February 29, 1984, in a 1-0 win over Belgium in Brussels. Typical of the man's irrational career that his farewell to the national side should have been on Leap Year Day.

Then followed a squabble with national manager Jupp Derwall, a suspicious stand-off with Derwall's successor Franz Beckenbauer, and a general acceptance that Schuster found the business of commuting to play for his country rather too tiresome.

He was, indeed, a live precursor justifying the prophecies of Silvio Berlusconi and Uli Hoeness that eventually competitive pressure within the game will reduce national team football to a place in the history books.

Schuster had come to international light with his starring role in the Germans' 1980 European Championship success. On the strength of that he was whisked away from Koln by Barcelona and that initial transfer to Spain was, in effect, the beginning of the end.

A serious knee injury robbed Schuster of a World Cup role in 1982 but then, when Derwall wanted Schuster back for the European finals in France in 1984, his patience and temper were well-nigh exhausted by the argy-bargy over obtaining Schuster's presence for matches and training sessions.

Schuster, in the meantime, did nothing to reduce his image of a fractious lone wolf with a controversy-laden voyage of discovery where no player had been before — lining up, successively, for Spain's Big Three as he added high-profile contracts at Real and then Atletico Madrid to his Barcelona days.

Remember Schuster storming straight down to the dressing rooms after being substituted by Terry Venables during the 1986 Champions Cup Final?

Remember Schuster's war of words with Real president Ramon Mendoza? Remember Schuster's Christian Scientist beliefs infuriating Atletico's Jesus Gil because he refused the pain-killing jabs prescribed to heal muscle trouble? (And I wonder how many other thinking footballers wished they had Schuster's fierce psychological and financial independence to stand up for that principle?)

Schuster had not thought of going back to finish his career in the Bundesliga until Dragoslav Stepanovic, then Bayer Leverkusen's coach-in-waiting, gambled on the call earlier this year. His return was the most fascinating transfer move of the summer and immediately produced a dividend in Schuster's inspiration of Leverkusen's early-season victory over Bayern Munich.

That was enough to set off the "Bring back Schuster!" bandwagon. Significantly, Schuster does not rule out a return after nearly a decade in the wilderness.

He says: "I have absolutely no problems with the coach, Berti Vogts. In fact, he was the first manager to pick me for my country when he was West German youth manager.

"If he wanted me to play in the World Cup next year then I would not turn him down. On the other hand, I have no intention of putting him under any kind of pressure. I respect him too much and I have been happy to concentrate on my club career these last years."

Of course, as long as Schuster goes on producing the goods for Leverkusen he will put Vogts (above) under pressure, indirectly, through the media.

All of which brings me back (at last) to the original argument. If Vogts recalls Schuster for a short-term role in defence of the World Cup next summer, what will that say about long-term planning — which national managers always drone on about and for which the Germans have always been renowned? Schuster is no spring chicken. By the time US '94 rolls around he will be 34. But that is only one year older than Lothar Matthaus, who is expected to be the physical fulcrum of the side once more. Schuster's supporters might look back to Brazil in 1962 and point out that no fewer than six members of their winning side against Czechoslovakia in Santiago — goalkeeper Gilmar, defenders Djalma Santos, Mauro and Nilton Santos, midfielders Didi and Zagalo — were 30-plus (and Zozimo and Zito were not far off joining them).

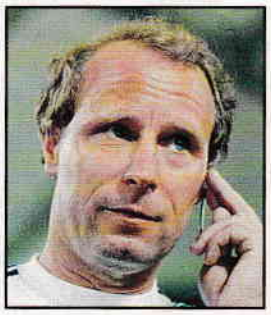
You may say that such an old team would stand no chance of success in today's physically-demanding game. But standards are comparative. Brazil were under no less physical pressure in that era than a team of similar senior citizen status would be now.

The answer must clearly be that while long-term planning is necessary it is not a concept which demands such slavish devotion that short-term expediency is thrown out of the window. At some point every manager comes up against the same brick-wall question: Which mixture of 11 players will win this game for me?

If Vogts decides — as he will surely be tempted — that the experience and unique perception of Schuster will give Germany an edge in the United States then he must pick the man. Once the World Cup finals begin, there is no long-term view. Everything is short-term, win or bust.

England manager Graham Taylor faces the same dilemma over Paul Gascoigne. Do you gamble on his unpredictability or select a safety-first worker who will give you 90 minutes' effort without the potential individual inspiration?

Back in the 1966 World Cup finals, Sir Alf Ramsey was wonderfully rewarded for preferring Roger Hunt and Geoff Hurst up front to the exclusion of Jimmy Greaves, one of the greatest goal-diggers in the history of English football.



Four years later Italian manager Ferruccio Valcareggi used Sandro Mazzola and Gianni Rivera — two of his nation's most gifted natural talents — turn and turn-about in the notorious "staffetta" rather than sacrifice the effort put in alongside them by comparative journeymen such as Mario Bertini, Picchio De Sisti and Angelo Domenghini.

Of course, the ultimate result was a 4-1 defeat by Brazil. But that Brazilian side deserved to beat anyone. Italy's achievement was in reaching the Final.

Italy, again. In 1978 Enzo Bearzot decided, on the strength of one last warm-up game against an Argentinian club side, to play Paolo Rossi at centre-forward instead of the experienced Francesco Graziani. Rossi turned instantly into international superstar and an Italian side who had left home without hope or confidence finished fourth.

Football history is littered with examples of short-term expediency paying off. Or maybe it is the successful gambles we remember. Those which failed are remembered only in the ever-increasing total of managerial dismissals.

Berti Vogts today finds himself in a Catch-22 situation. If he answers media clamour and picks Schuster and wins, then Schuster will be the hero. If he picks Schuster and loses then the media which promoted the player's recall will waste no time pointing the finger of blame . . . at Berti Vogts.

Gone...but not forgotten

PETER REID, during his managerial spell with Manchester City, had developed something of a reputation for phoning up reporters and telling them, no-holds-barred, precisely what he thought of reports and stories with which he disagreed.

It would be too cruel, of course, to say that results speak for themselves. Reid may well be back in employment elsewhere by the time you read this. English football needs his commitment on and off the field.

Don't forget, Reid was a significant influence among the squad and on the pitch when England reached the 1986 World Cup quarter-finals. Such qualities are not to be wasted.

Bad news for Kruse

AXEL KRUSE faces a six-month suspension after knocking over the referee who refused him a penalty in Stuttgart's 6-2 German Cup first round defeat by Kaiserslautern.

Kruse was, of course, sent off and compounded his felony by slinging his shirt at the feet of furious general manager Dieter Hoeness, who had come off the bench to meet him halfway.

Later coach Cristoph Daum, a character in his own right, mused: "I was pleased we bought Kruse in the summer. I thought he would give us a bit more fire in midfield."

Some fire. Kruse, one of the East German products making his way in unified German football, has quite a record. Twice he felled Eintracht Frankfurt players with an elbow . . . and they were team-mates involved in separate incidents in training!

It's that time of year...

YEARBOOK time again. And, for once, Rothmans Football Yearbook (24th edition, Headline Publishing) was first up and running with the News of the World Football Annual (107th edition) in second place.

Not that either publication is second-best, of course.

Rothmans remains wonderful value at 1023 pages for £16.99. It is the bible of the domestic game. Similarly, the News of the World Annual (433 at £3.99) is a brilliantly-packaged pocket guide without peer anywhere. Full credit to respective editors Jack Rollin and Albert Sewell.

Jack Rollin also has produced an updated seventh edition of his Soccer Who's Who (Guinness Publications, £6.99) including full career details of all players in the English and Scottish Leagues.

On the same theme, we have received a computer-printed copy of Premier League Players 1993-94 produced by Igor Marsh and Misko Erak of Zagreb, Croatia. This is one of a growing number of publications built on computer data. Further information from Misko Erak, Mikulic 38, 41000 Zagreb, Croatia.

Moving north, Jalkapallokirja 1993, produced by the Finnish Federation, is the bible of football in Finland. As established, in its way, as Rothmans or News of the World in the UK. And just as good in its sphere.

First for Milne

FIRST English manager with a main-line trophy to his name this season is Gordon Milne with Besiktas.

They won the traditional curtain-raiser to the Turkish season, a three-cornered fight between Istanbul giants Besiktas, Galatasaray and Fenerbahce for the TSYD Cup (the Turkish Sportswriters' Cup).

Besiktas beat Galatasaray 4-1 then drew 1-1 with Fenerbahce — and might have won that as well but Fenerbahce keeper Engin saved a penalty from Oktay.

Incidentally, before enraged Manchester readers set pen to paper, the English Charity Shield did take place two weeks earlier but the winning manager was, of course, a Scot, Alex Ferguson.

15 Football Italia 1993-94 books to be won!

FOOTBALL ITALIA 1993-94 is a comprehensive guide to the new Serie A season and has been created in conjunction with Chrysalis TV, who produce both the Sunday live Italian soccer on Channel 4 and the Saturday morning preview programme Gazzetta Football Italia.

If you can identify the Serie A club by the badge shown here ring our competition hotline number: 0891 909 333 before Monday 27th September, 1993.

You will be asked for your name, address and postcode. Calls cost 36p/minute cheap rate and 48p/minute at all other times and should not last more than one minute.

Prizes will be awarded to the first 15 correct entries selected at random by our computer after the closing date.

A Century of World Football

PART ONE 1900-1920

BY MIKE LANGLEY

Pioneers first, associations nowhere

Individuals showed the way to devise a global game

"FOG in the Channel. Continent cut off" was an Edwardian newspaper headline never outdone in its crisp summary of British insularity and aloofness that persists in part to the present day.

All but 90 years since the founding of FIFA, the United Kingdom stands alone as a single country fielding four national teams whose players travel on identical passports and are paid in a common currency while owing their ultimate allegiance to the same Union flag.

This anomaly is rooted in the years when Britannia's battle cruisers ruled the waves while Britannia's sports officials originated the rules (or laws or codes) of team games destined to sweep the world. Rugby, cricket and, above all, football.

In Spain, the name of Athletic (never Atletico) Bilbao honours British founders. The Swiss championship has been won more than 11 times by a club proud of their English name — Young Boys of Berne.

Newell's Old Boys continue to remind Argentina of their British beginnings and FK Austria were known until the Second World War as "The Cricketers" in commemoration of their start as Vienna Cricket and Football Club.

The missionary spread of football owed almost nothing to the Football Associations of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, whose imaginations remained fettered by their own Home International Championship, their own cup competitions and the nurturing of their own leagues.

The world, when thought of at all by FA councillors, was regarded as a place where footballers venturing beyond Dover might fall off the edge.

So the game overseas rooted itself amateurishly and haphazardly — planted in Argentina by British railway engineers, in Vienna by the English gasworks licensed to light the city, in Brazil by an English public schoolboy, Charles Miller, going home to Sao Paulo in 1893 with two footballs and a full kit, only to find no teams. Whereupon Miller founded a couple.

Within nine years, Sao Paulo — the city of Pele — boasted its own league. But the first champions were virtually an all-British XI including Miller and colleagues from the railways, as well as ex-patriate schoolmasters, bank officers and, as in Vienna, employees of the English gasworks.

Miller had a counterpart in Rio de Janeiro. Oscar Cox was another Englishman with a love of football and a talent for organisation. The club Cox launched in 1900 remain famous to this day: Fluminense.

Nottingham Forest toured Argentina in 1904 but sailed home without calling at the country destined to win the World Cup outright. So it was 1914 before Brazil's first glimpse of English professionals — and then only in the humble form of Exeter City whose Southern League players, after two friendly victories, crashed 5-3 to Brazil's national side.

This was a striking indication of Brazil's advance. Four years earlier a national XI had been trounced 5-2 by England's Corinthian amateurs in a six-match tour completed with this triumphant record: W6 D0 L0 F38 A 6.

Those for-and-against figures mirrored the F38 A4 by the FA's own first missionaries, a mixed bag of professionals and amateurs sent in 1899 to play four matches in Germany and Bohemia (later Czechoslovakia).

Then the FA relapsed into that frame of mind mocked many years later by the musical duo Flanders and Swann — "The English, the English, the English are best. We wouldn't give tuppence for all of the rest."

England entered the 20th century with 16,000 clubs and more than 300,000 registered players, of whom 6,000 were professionals. Compare that with the German FA at the same time — 66 clubs and 1,215 footballers.

Neither Frederick Wall, the lawyer-secretary of the Football Association, nor his council possessed the imagination to realise that these disparities were not immutable. That the Germans, like the Brazilians, would blossom into winners of three World Cups.

Anybody suggesting such a possibility would have been rebuffed: "What World Cup? Who could possibly organise one? FIFA, you say? Don't be ridiculous!"

Only Cornelius Hirschman, a Dutch banker, dared to stand against this arrogance. He instigated the meeting — in Paris, 1904 — that gave birth to FIFA with a modest membership of seven: Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

This was football's most momentous event of the era but the British associations, in their own words, "regarded the scheme coldly." Similarly, a French proposal to form UEFA a year before the FIFA meeting received an all-British brush-off: "We cannot see the advantages."

The clubs were more enterprising. Rangers, Celtic, Everton and Tottenham among others toured the Continent. So did Cambridge University and the Corinthians — while John Robinson, the Southampton and England goalkeeper, made such an impression that the low, diving save became known through Central Europe as "a Robinsonade."

Even the official ice soon melted. In 1906 FA treasurer Daniel Woolfall was elected president of FIFA, and a full England team went to Austria, Hungary and Bohemia in 1908 to honour Emperor Franz Josef's 60th year on the throne of Austro-Hungary and a FIFA conference in Vienna.

England won 6-1 in Vienna, 4-0 in Prague and 7-0 in Budapest.

In the same summer, the Olympic

Giants of the past . . . Sam Hardy (left) and Vivian Woodward (above).

Soccer championship was won in London by England's amateurs, beating Denmark 2-0. They fielded eight full internationals at White City, including Everton outside-left Harold Hardman, who became a successful, self-effacing chairman of Manchester United in the early years of Sir Matt Busby.

The Olympic title was the nearest that football went in those times to a World Cup — and England won it again at the next Games in Stockholm, once more beating Denmark in the final. This time by 4-2 but again with a left-winger destined to make a name in Manchester.

He was Ivan Sharpe, a perceptive and popular sports writer through to the late Fifties.

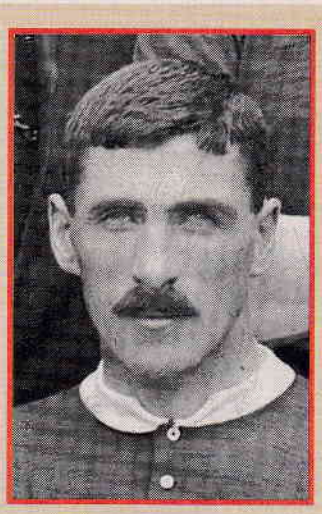
Two championships entitled the English — or so they thought — to retire from overseas expeditions to concentrate on the serious business of putting the Scots in their place. Chelsea signed Nils Middelboe, a Danish centre half, as their captain for nine years from 1913 in a spirit of internationalism not echoed by the FA.

Secretary Wall once more drew the blinds by not arranging fixtures against fellow members of FIFA and, eventually, by resigning from the organisation in a dispute over playing against former enemies of the First World War.

The year was 1920. Wales were home champions, West Bromwich the League winners, Aston Villa the new FA Cup-holders — and the Southern League en bloc was becoming the Third Division (South).

And Brazil? Somewhere on the right if you set sail for the South Pole, but really too far for a chap to bother about!

Record-breaker . . . Steve Bloomer with Derby' County players Sammy Crooks, Dally Duncan and Jack Nicholas.



Wizard . . . Billy Meredith.

Tactician . . . Billy McCracken.

Stars at home . . . and even abroad

ARTHUR FRIEDENREICH, the first coloured player selected for Brazil's national team and the first anywhere to claim 1,000 goals. A light mulatto who opened the doors for the great black footballers of his era — Domingos and Fausto from Rio, as well as Leonidas from Sao Paulo.

G.O. (Gilbert Oswald) SMITH, the Corinthians and England centre-forward, regarded as "a genius of elusiveness, penetrative dribbling and the straight, hard shot."

VIVIAN WOODWARD, captain and inside right of England in both their 1908 and 1912 Olympic championships. An amateur international who also scored 29 goals in 23 appearances for the full England team. Played for Corinthians, Spurs and, from 1906-15, for Chelsea because it was nearer his home. A true amateur who refused to accept even his bus fare to matches.

STEVE BLOOMER, pale and slight but the scorer of a then-record 352 League goals for Derby County and Middlesbrough — as well as 28 in 23 matches for England. A master of positioning and the through ball.

SAM HARDY, considered the finest British goalkeeper up to the First World War. Won the first of his 24 England caps with Liverpool in 1906 and his last with Aston Villa in 1920. Compensated for lack of height by so narrowing angles that many forwards shot straight at him.

BOB CROMPTON, England's automatic right-back for 41 internationals over 10 seasons and the rock of Blackburn Rovers for four decades as captain, manager and director. An outstanding striker of the ball.

BOB McCOLL, a fast, two-footed Scottish centre-forward who scored three goals in 20 minutes against England in 1900. Turned pro with Newcastle, then joined Rangers and won 14 caps.

BILLY MEREDITH, the original Welsh Wizard who played his last League match in 1925 at the age of 50. A quick, wriggling winger with a deadly cross who won 51 international caps and FA Cup medals with both Manchester City and United.

NILS MIDDELBOE, Danish inside-left who made his debut at 17 against Newcastle in 1904. In his mid-twenties, he took a banking job in London where he joined Chelsea as an amateur centre-half and captain for nine years.

CARL HANSEN, Danish centre-forward signed by renowned manager Bill Struth for Rangers, where he played for three seasons — and, as a mark of Ibrox appreciation, was given a year's pay as a going-home present.

Top teams and tactics

ENGLAND — six times outright winners of the home international championship in the years from 1900 to the outbreak in 1914 of the First World War.

CELTIC — Scottish champions 11 times between 1900-20, including a spell of six titles in succession.

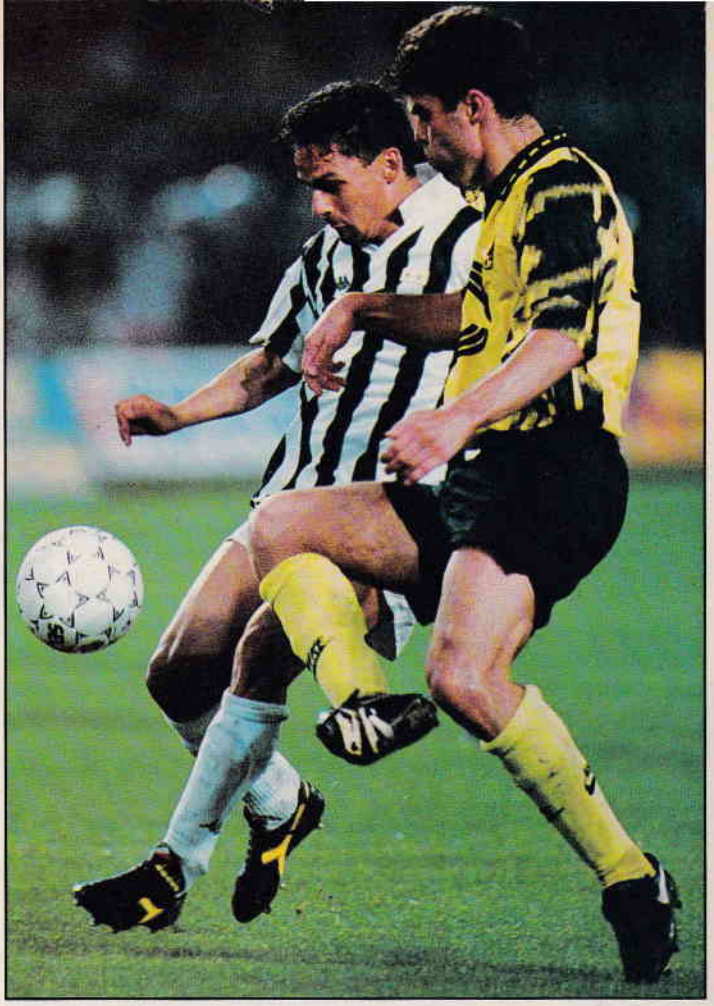
GREAT BRITAIN — virtually the England amateur XI who won the Olympic championship in 1908 and 1912, with Vivian Woodward the outstanding individual player.

TACTICS — 2-3-5 everywhere. Two full-backs patrolling the touchlines, an attacking centre-half in midfield with his wing-halves and five forwards (two of them wingers) strung across the full width of the pitch.
This style was universal until the fast and wily Bill McCracken of Newcastle exploited offside so successfully that the ensuing change of the law brought about a tactical revolution, leading in time to the stopper centre-half.

SPOTLIGHT ON

ROBERTO BAGGIO

ALL GROWN UP



Cup-winner . . . captaining Juventus to UEFA Cup victory last season (above).

Award-winner . . . receiving the Italian Player of the Year trophy (below left).

Golden Ball is there for Roberto's taking

UEFA Cup success in May was not merely a face-saving achievement of an otherwise erratic season for Juventus.

For their captain, Robert Baggio — collecting his first major honour remarkably enough — it crowned a memorable season on both domestic and European stages.

So much so that many of the sport's leading figures have proclaimed him as the main contender for the 1993 European Footballer of the Year award.

"Baggio's ability certainly deserves important recognition," says Marco Van Basten, current holder of the award.

"I can't think of anyone better to keep 'my' title warm for me."

Van Basten's Milan teammate and 1991 winner, Jean-Pierre Papin, joins in the praise.

"Roberto belongs to that rare category of footballers who are able to do whatever they want with the ball at their feet," he says.

"With his class, Baggio is capable of knocking down barriers between rival supporters. If it was up to me, I would give the Golden Ball to him and skip the voting."

Three Juventus players have received France Football's Golden Ball — temperamental Argentine Omar Sivori, three-times winner Michel Platini, and World Cup hero Paolo Rossi.

In 1982, Rossi became only the second native Italian to land the prize, after Milan's Gianni Rivera in 1969. Comparisons between Baggio and Rossi are inevitable.

Both players were launched by a northern club, Lanerossi Vicenza, progressed to lucrative transfers to Juventus, and became symbols of the Italian national team.

Rossi's title owed much to his scoring exploits during the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

In contrast Baggio is on the verge of claiming the Golden Ball by virtue of his outstanding strike rate during the entire 92-93 season.

For a player who is not recognised as an orthodox forward, Baggio's record was extraordinary. He scored 35 goals in all competitions, including 21 in the League.

"He had a glorious season in every way," says Rossi.

"In addition to scoring, he also made so many for others. He's worth the entrance money on his own."

Baggio's Serie A record is exactly one goal every two matches — 93 in 186 matches.

Roberto Baggio was born on February 18, 1967, in Caldogno, a small town near Vicenza.

His love of football, and his reputation for clowning around, was evident at an early age.

He longed for a leather football, because the plastic variety had a frustrating tendency to burst. The young Roberto would play outside his father's workshop, where he was convinced Baggio senior purposely laid disused rough-edged iron parts.

Cheekily, he would shop at the nearest store for a new football — and charge his father's account.

The young talent soon joined his local team, Caldogno, with whom he still claims, if somewhat tongue in cheek, to have played his finest game to date.

In 1975, aged eight, Baggio scored six times in Caldogno's 7-0 demolition of Leva.

While with Lanerossi a serious injury almost ended his blossoming career.

He scored against Rimini, only to be taken off two minutes later after damaging cruciate ligaments in his right knee.

Surgery was performed in France by a Professor Bousquet, and Baggio missed all the following season. He maintains that the incident proved the turning point of his career.

"When you're young and really suffer, you learn to understand a great many things," he said.

"Moreover, you appreciate what you already have."

Despite the injury, Baggio's earlier performances still earned him a move to Fiorentina.

Sadly, he broke down again after his Serie A debut. This time, the cause was thought to have been a cartilage, and Baggio returned to action three months later.

That diagnosis proved incorrect and his progress was disrupted for a third

PRO-FILE

ROBERTO BAGGIO

JUVENTUS AND ITALY

Born: February 18, 1967 in Caldogno

Previous clubs: Caldogno, Lanerossi Vicenza, Fiorentina.

International debut: 16th November 1988 v Holland in Rome. Won 1-0.

International caps: 30.

Serie A debut: September 21, 1986 for Fiorentina v Sampdoria. Won 2-0.

Serie A appearances: 186 (93 goals).

HONOURS

UEFA Cup: 1993.

time. There was another operation by Professor Bousquet, and Baggio resumed playing soon after his 20th birthday.

The man who took a gamble in recruiting the young phenomenon was Fiorentina's president, Piercesare Baretti, who tragically died in December 1987.

He had declared that Baggio would one day become the best player in Europe.

Although his prophecy may become reality, it is marred only by the fact that Baggio could be crowned European Footballer of the Year wearing the colours of Juventus, the team Fiorentina fans love to hate.

Baggio signed for them immediately before Italia '90 in what was then the most expensive transfer in soccer history — around £7.5 million.

Many Italians dream of playing for Juventus. Baggio's move, however, was littered with sadness and controversy.

His mournful expression as he signed for Juve was indicative of the remorse he felt in deserting his loyal Fiorentina followers.

More than six months after his move to Turin, Baggio's unhappiness was still in evidence, none more so than when Juve travelled to Florence for a Serie A fixture.

Fiorentina took an early lead, but Juve had the opportunity to equalise when Baggio was brought down for a penalty.

Baggio, the designated penalty-taker, refused the responsibility so Gigi De Agostini stepped up . . . only to see his kick saved by Mareggini.

A few minutes later, Baggio was replaced and as he trudged off he picked up a Fiorentina scarf thrown from the stands and placed it around his neck.

The incident hardly endeared him to fans from Turin.

Baggio needed time to adjust to the transition, but still managed to lead Juve's scorers in his first season, with 14 goals. In the following year he repeated the feat, this time with 18.

Gradually, he began to find his feet in his new environment and his rapport with the fans improved dramatically.

"It's always difficult to settle with a new club and my situation was particularly delicate," he says.

"Everybody knows the bad feeling that exists between Fiorentina and Juventus fans, but I've matured thanks to experience and learning from my mistakes.

"I'm a reserved type of person, who loves to spend his time with his family more than anything else. I still joke around, but you can't do it all the time.

"When your responsibility increases and you feel more pressure, you have to be a little more serious. People have tried to change me in the past, but I've retained the same values and flaws."

Baggio points out that even Diego Maradona had won very little in Europe up to the age of 26, and he believes the majority of success is attained after that age — and by having the good fortune to play with the right team at the right time.

During his three largely fruitless years in Turin, Baggio has lived under the shadow of Michel Platini, winner of two League titles, an Italian Cup, a European Champions' Cup, Super Cup, Cup-winners' Cup and World Club Cup during his five years in Turin.

In contrast, Baggio's playing role regularly presents coaches with a dilemma.

He is playmaker, midfielder and striker, and many pundits believe he should be free to play to his strengths, just as Maradona did so effectively for Napoli.

Platini judges Baggio as a number 9 and a half — a cross between a midfielder and a striker.

"I respect Platini's opinion, even though what he says doesn't really affect me" says Baggio.

"I hope that I won't need to judge players when I finish my career. I certainly won't wish to place extra pressure on emerging talents by comparing them to myself.

"Platini was one of football's greats, but I have always preferred Zico — the football in history for me. I've tried to steal a few of his secrets."

With some success, too. Zico, now in Japan with Kashima Antlers, says: "Roberto's world class. I have a few videos of him which I take great pleasure in showing my Japanese friends.

"From a purely technical viewpoint, it's impossible to find a flaw. His ability is innate."

Come the end of 93-94 Baggio could be leading both club and country to glory.

Juventus followers have been waiting seven years for the championship to return to Turin, while all Italy's fans will be counting on the national team to get to the World Cup in the United States, and become the first nation to win it for a fourth time.

"I'm much happier now," he explains.

"The major factor is that I now play where I want to.

"During a match, I choose whether to play up front or further back, and critics have stopped saying that I'm inconsistent.

"It's not easy to play at your best all year round. And there's the added pressure of playing for Juventus, where you are always expected to give that much more."

Baggio has learned to cope with the pressure reserved only for a select few, but knows future expectations will be greater.

The Golden Ball, the Scudetto and the World Cup have all suddenly become realistic targets for a self-confessed overly sensitive young man, who had never won a major honour before this year.

"The thought of being awarded the Golden Ball fills me with pride, but I know how difficult it will be to win," he says.

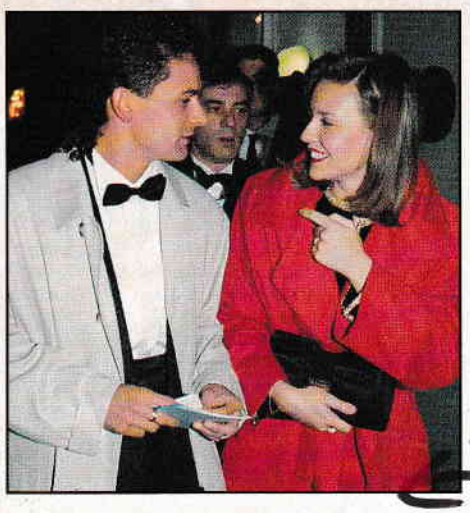
"Take last year for example, when it appeared the award would go to Hristo Stoichkov.

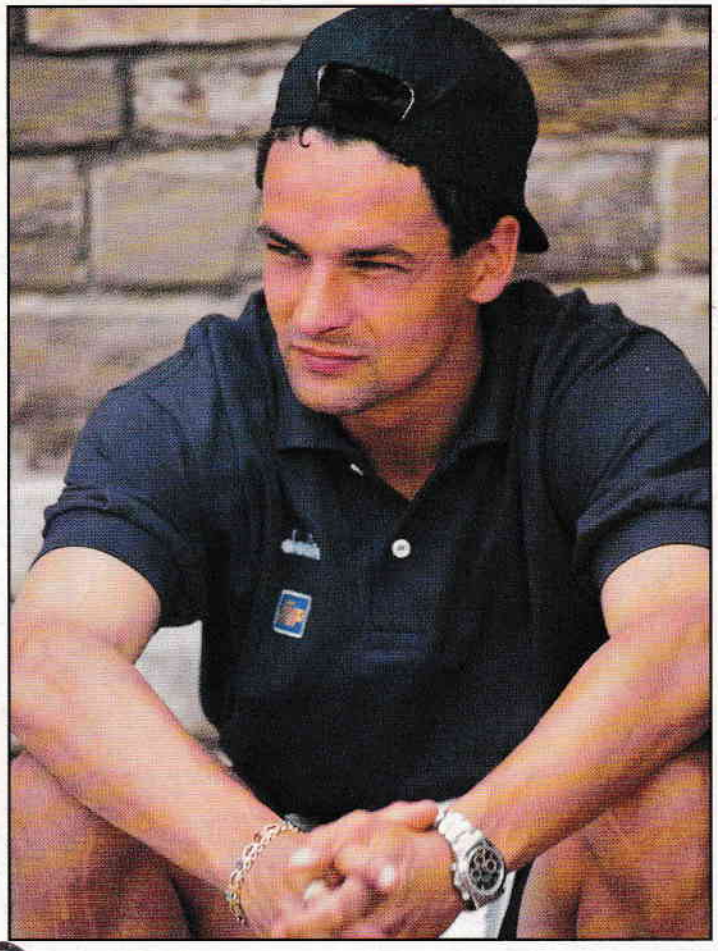
"Then Van Basten scored four goals in one match, and won it."

This proved to be the year one of the world's brightest lights came of age.

Nothing would make him happier than to hear the words, "Roberto Baggio — the 1993 European Footballer of the Year."

RAY DELLA PIETRA





Man about town . . . Baggio steps out with wife Andriena (top).

Cool customer . . . Baggio takes a time-out to relax (above).

Crowd pleaser . . . Baggio in action against Switzerland's Hottiger (right).

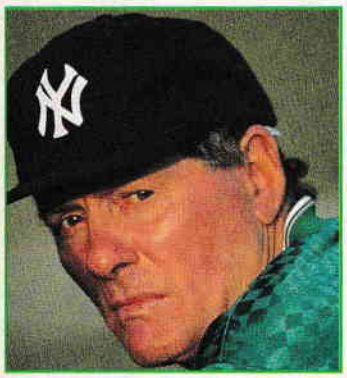
Gigi goes as Gullit gains new glitter

Gigi Radice (below), fresh from being sacked by Cagliari, made the following observation on the first Monday morning of the new Italian season: "If it keeps on going like this, I'll soon be in the Guinness Book of Records."

Radice's dismissal, after less than two months in charge of the team and after a 5-2 defeat by Atalanta in Cagliari's opening game, certainly prompts a few questions.

For example, what happened at Cagliari between 58-year-old Radice's June appointment as successor to Carlo Mazzone (who departed for AS Roma) and the season's opening?

How come the coach, described by 36-year-old Cagliari president Massimo Cellino as "the right man for us, he has charisma and experience"



had become a coach who was "no longer the man he used to be" two months later, according to Cellino?

Rumours and media speculation attempting to provide the answers have come forth and multiplied.

One much-touted theory is that Radice's use of the zonal, British-style system, allied to his hard-driving work methods, did not go down well with senior club players such as Gianfranco Matteoli, more accustomed to classic Italian man-to-man marking.

In particular, much was made of alleged player displeasure during the pre-season training camp, when Radice's heavy workload and his insistence that players be back at team base by 10.30pm every evening led to acrimonious confrontations.

Such an explanation, however, does not convince. Radice's predecessor, Mazzone, was even more hard-working and dictatorial, while alleged dressing room disenchantment would not normally be enough to have a coach sacked after one game.

Time may reveal the full story.

Cellino was worried about the form of a team due to face Romanian side Dinamo Bucharest in the UEFA Cup, Cagliari's first venture in European competition since 1972-73.

A good run in Europe can be worth up to £10million for a leading Italian side and Cellino clearly did not want to see the financial opportunity wasted.

One sad certainty to emerge from the whole shabby business is that Radice's professional reputation has been seriously damaged.

Radice, one of the most experienced coaches in Italian soccer, led Torino to title success in 1976, and took the Cagliari job, following six months of inactivity. Before then there had been an equally acrimonious and sensational dismissal by Fiorentina.

Given the merry-go-round of Italian coaches, however, there is no reason to shed tears for Radice. For a start, he will continue to pick up his £250,000 annual wage, while in all likelihood, he will be back at work before the season ends.

The swings-and-roundabouts aspect of Italian coaching are perfectly illustrated by 52-year-old Bruno Giorgi, Radice's replacement.

In 18 years as a professional coach, Giorgi has now been employed by 13 clubs. Last year, he survived for less than two months on the Genoa bench, while three years previously he too had fallen foul of the notoriously difficult Fiorentina "piazza", sacked because of poor results and an alleged inability to get the best out of a certain Roberto Baggio

While Cagliari and Radice provided the most sensational off-the-field news of the new season, it was left to an old hand, Dutch legend Ruud Gullit, to provide the first footballing story of the year when inspiring his new club, Sampdoria, to a thoroughly deserved 2-1 away win over Napoli on the opening day.

Gullit, probably still irked by the off-hand manner of his departure from champions Milan, after six successful seasons, glittered from start to finish of a performance that certainly refuted the "Gullit-is-finished" theory.

With an easier calendar because they are not involved in European competition and with team-mates, Englishman David Platt (Juventus reject) and Alberigo Evani (Milan reject) likely to experience the same kind of personal motivation as Gullit, Samp could provide a nasty surprise for more than just Napoli this season.

When it comes to the championship contest, however, Milan remain the side to beat. Their Italian Super Cup defeat of Torino (1-0 in Washington) and their opening Serie A win against newly-promoted Lecce (1-0 away) prove that despite the injury-enforced absence of such as Gigi Lentini (car accident), Marco Van Basten (ankle surgery) and right-back Christian Panucci (muscular problem), they are already beginning to motor nicely.

Rumour has it that Milan, above all, want to win the Champions Cup this season and that accordingly a less determined approach can be expected in the League. That may be the rumour but there has been little sign of such an attitude so far.

On the contrary, just when Milan have lost two legendary foreigners in Gullit and Frank Rijkaard, they would appear poised to make the most of a worthy successor in the Croat, Zvonimir Boban.

One year ago, Boban was humble enough to believe that reserve soccer with Milan would eventually pay off. Before the season's end, his choice had been vindicated because Milan's crowded fixture list had provoked injuries and thus given him his chance in important league and Cup games.

Judged on his early-season performances this year, the mantle of successor to Rijkaard may not prove too onerous for him.

If that continues to be the case, then do not hold your breath while waiting for Milan to collapse.

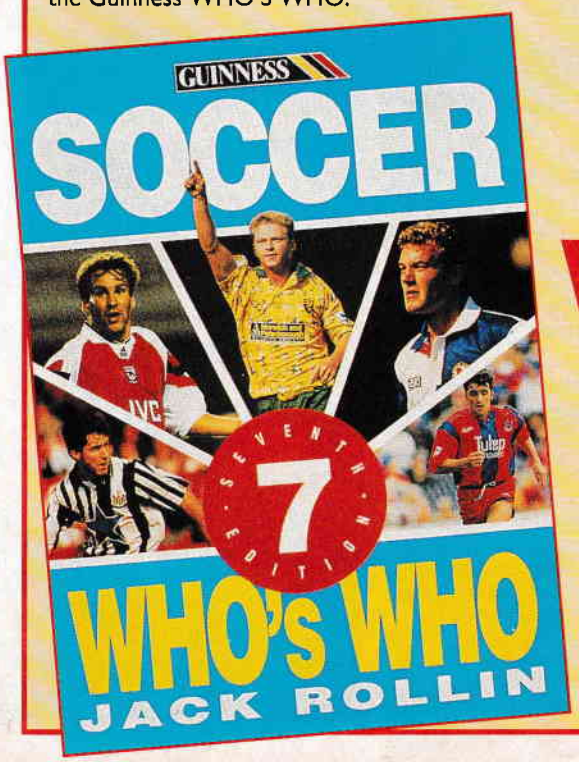
PADDY AGNEW

SOCCER who's who

QUESTION

Coventry City striker Mick Quinn has scored goals for five other English League clubs during his career. Wigan and Stockport are two. Can you name the other three in the correct order?

The career statistics of every player in the FA Carling Premiership, Endsleigh Insurance Football League, Scottish Premier Division and British stars abroad . . . are all in the excellent new edition of the Guinness WHO'S WHO.



AND WE'VE TEN TO BE WON!!!

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0891 909 335

before Monday 27th September, 1993. You will be asked for your name, address and postcode.

Calls should not last more than one minute.

★ Calls cost 36p/minute cheap rate and 48p/minute at all other times.

Prizes will be awarded to the first ten correct entries selected by our computer after the closing date.

CAGLIARI

Stadium of delight . . . the Sant'Elia in Cagliari.

Riva remembered

Good times are back on Sardinia

AN ISLAND side will represent Italy in Europe this season, for the first time since 1970.

To everyone's surprise Cagliari, from Sardinia, snatched the last Italian berth in the UEFA Cup on the final day of the season and started celebrations not seen since the days of Luigi Riva.

Unfortunately, the fate of all such modest sides is to have their best players plundered during the summer transfer campaign.

Goalkeeper Mario Ielpo went to Milan, defender Gianluca Festa to Internazionale, experienced Uruguayan midfielder Enzo Francescoli to Torino, and coach Carlo Mazzone fulfilled a life-long dream by taking over at AS Roma.

"After all the historic relegation battles I won with other sides, this is the greatest success of my career," said Mazzone of Cagliari's European achievement. "I never seem to get things right — I win a place in Europe and leave the club."

Mazzone has been replaced by former Genoa coach Bruno Giorgi. That is only half the story, for between Mazzone and Giorgi was the unfortunate Luigi Radice, sacked after just one game in charge — a disastrous 5-2 opening-day defeat by Atalanta.

Other newcomers include goalkeeper Valerio Fiori from Lazio, midfielder Massimiliano Allegri of Pescara, and Julio Dely Valdez, the Panamian forward from Nacional of Montevideo in Uruguay.

Dely Valdez said diplomatically: "Taking over from a player like Francescoli is a great responsibility, but I hope to make sure the Cagliari fans will not miss him."

There are also comparisons with the past. Back in 1969, Cagliari won their first place in Europe thanks to finishing second in the championship.

The following season, Cagliari took their one and only League title in history.

That side contained six Italian internationals, including Luigi Riva, goalkeeper Enrico Albertosi and winger Angelo Domenghini.

After winning Serie A, they defeated Saint Etienne in the Champions Cup before going out to Atletico Madrid.

Riva, the most prolific modern Italian scorer, was at his peak, and inspired the Sardinians to one more season in the UEFA Cup, in 1972, before a series of injuries brought his finest days to an end. And his club's.

"I have heard people speak of Riva's Cagliari. But that is history," said Dely Valdez.

He will have to do a lot to convince the Cagliari supporters that he can stand the comparison.

GIANCARLO RINALDI

CAGLIARI

Address: Via Tola 30, 09128 Cagliari, Sardinia.
Tel: (070) 402839.
Formed: 1920.
President: Antonio Orru.
Coach: Bruno Giorgi.
Stadium: Sant'Elia.
Capacity: 43,117.
HONOURS
League Championship: 1970.

THE COACH

Bruno GIORGI. Aged 42.
Began coaching with Serie B Reggiana back in 1975 and Cagliari are now his 13th different club. His most notable successes came with Fiorentina, Atalanta and, most recently, Genoa. Ironically he resigned there last October after defeat by Cagliari.

THE PLAYERS

Valerio FIORI. Goalkeeper. Aged 24 (born in Rome, April 27, 1969).
Constant disagreements with Lazio coach Dino Zoff and erratic performances meant he failed to establish himself there. Luca Marchegiani's arrival meant that he was pleased to transfer to Cagliari during the summer.

Nicola DI BITONTO. Goalkeeper. Aged 27 (born in Barletta, Bari, May 1, 1966).
Reserve since 1990, when signed from local club Barletta. Has made only three short Serie A appearances for the club.

Antonio ALOISI. Defender. Aged 25 (born in Ascoli Picenco, August 28, 1968).
A promising young full-back signed from Torino to help fill the gap left by the Inter-bound Gianluca Festa.

Francesco BELLUCCI. Defender. Aged 20 (born in Osimo, Ancona, February 23, 1973).
A tall central defender unlikely to feature in first-team plans.

Aldo FIRICANO. Defender. Aged 26 (born in Trapani, March 12, 1967).
Over 100 appearances with the island side since 1989. Despite rumours linking him with Roma he chose to remain with Cagliari.

Nicola NAPOLI. Defender. Aged 31 (born in Palermo, February 7, 1962).
UEFA Cup winner with Juventus in 1990. Experienced full-back with an eye for goal.

Giuseppe PANCARO. Defender. Aged 22 (born in Cosenza, August 26, 1971).
A product of the excellent Torino youth policy. Can also play in midfield. Joined Cagliari from Fourth Division Abezzano last season.

Vittorio PUSCEDDU. Defender. Aged 29 (born in Ruggerru, Cagliari, February 12, 1964).
One of last season's most improved players after flopping badly at Napoli. Coach Mazzone saw his potential as an attacking left-back and by the summer Internazionale and Sampdoria were both interested. Seven goals in 32 games in 1993-93.

Matteo VILLA. Defender. Aged 23 (born in Vimercate, Milan, January 28, 1970).
International at Under-21 level.

Massimiliano ALLEGRI. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born in Livorno, August 11, 1967).
One of the few bright spots in relegated Pescara's 1992-93 season. He struck 11 goals in 31 games and was linked with Napoli, Atalanta and Genoa before signing for Cagliari.

Pierpaolo BISOLI. Midfielder. Aged 26 (born in Bologna, November 20, 1966).
A creative central midfielder, shuffled around the lower divisions with a string of Tuscan clubs before becoming a Serie A regular in 1991.

Massimiliano CAPPIOLI. Midfielder. Aged 25 (born in Rome, January 17, 1968).
In his sixth season with the club, making him the most loyal of the current squad.

Jose Oscar HERRERA. Midfielder. Aged 28 (born in El Tala, Uruguay, June 17, 1965).
The last of the Uruguayan trio once at the club, Fonseca and Francescoli being the others. Strong midfielder with a powerful shot. Will have a large part to play in helping Dely Valdez settle into Italian football.

Gianfranco MATTEOLI. Midfielder *(below)*. Aged 34 (born in Nuoro, April 21, 1959).
A championship winner with Inter in 1989, capped six times in the late 1980s, all as a substitute. One of Cagliari's wisest signings, when many thought his Serie A career at an end, and has made 100 appearances for the club.

Marcos Marcelo TEJERA. Midfielder. Aged 20 (born in Montevideo, Uruguay, August 6, 1973).
A flop last season despite the club's good record with South American signings. Cagliari have kept faith and have given him a second chance.

Francesco MORIERO. Midfielder. Aged 24 (born in Lecce, March 31, 1969).
Promised much with his home team, and finally began to deliver last summer.

Luis Airton OLIVEIRA. Forward. Aged 24 (born in San Luis, Brazil, March 24, 1969).
Signed from Anderlecht as a replacement for the stylish Daniel Fonseca.

Julio Cesar DELY VALDEZ. Forward. Aged 26 (born in Panama, March 12, 1967).
The more famous of twins who both played for Nacional of Montevideo in Uruguay, and one of the few quality players Panama have produced. Nicknamed "Butter" for the way he slips through opposition defences.

Andrew Conradi talks to Franz Beckenbauer

Heads we win!

'German mentality makes us so hard to beat'

FRANZ BECKENBAUER, Germany's greatest footballer, is used to the question: Why are his compatriots so hard to beat?

"There is no secret," says the man who has led Germany to World Cup glory both as a player and a manager.

"The German mentality is stronger than that of other nations. I can assure you they do not have better players, but even when they are under pressure, they seem to maintain a winning mentality. It's not because they play better football."

Beckenbauer believes that this mentality will never be needed more than in next year's World Cup finals. Without having to qualify for one of the places in the United States, "Der Kaiser" says Germany will find it hard to retain the title of world champions.

"Qualifying games are the best way of building a team," he said.

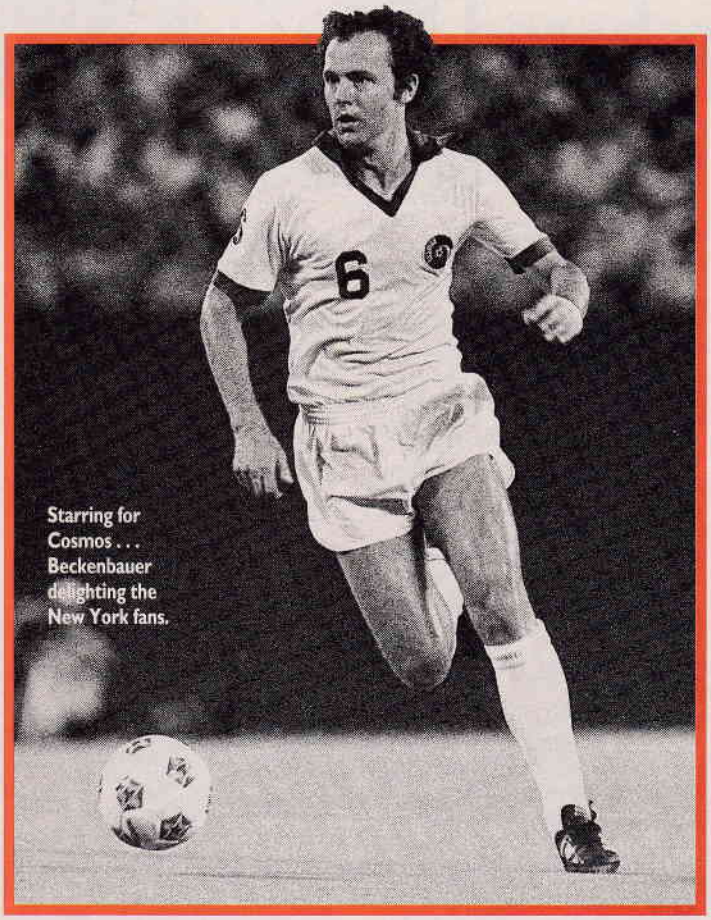
"Without them, it's extremely difficult. I really don't understand why FIFA insist on giving the defending champions an automatic place in the finals. It doesn't happen in the European Championship. Four years is a long, long time and a lot can happen."

Beckenbauer is convinced that the World Cup will be a success despite the conspicuous lack of any soccer passion in North America. He played in the United States for four years, in the now-defunct North American Soccer League, and recognises that the creation of an outdoor national league will be crucial if the game is to develop once the World Cup is over.

"Statistics show that 50 million schoolkids play soccer in the United States — the problem is they don't play afterwards," he said.

"But the interest is there. It wasn't in my day. They couldn't have had the World Cup then because there was no base for the game.

"If you build a house, you don't start with the roof. You start with the bottom, and the bottom is there now. Baseball and American Football will always be their national sports but FIFA have a duty to support developing soccer nations. I hope Japan will get the World Cup in 2002."


Starring for Cosmos . . . Beckenbauer delighting the New York fans.

As well as being an ambassador for the game wherever he travels, Beckenbauer is a vice-president of Bayern Munich. He refuses to get despondent at the fact that Bayern again will miss the lucrative Champions Cup this season, having been pipped for the German title by Werder Bremen.

"If you are leading the championship for 32 games, as we were, and then get caught, of course you get mad, but frankly we are pleased to be in the UEFA Cup.

"Because of the extra round and home-and-away final, you can actually earn more money than either of the other two competitions."

Beckenbauer also advocates the old knock-out system in the Champions Cup, saying the recently introduced mini-league is an unnecessary innovation.

"I believe the old system was more exciting — the new one is primarily for financial considerations."

Beckenbauer, who stopped playing soccer 11 years ago, concentrates a lot on golf these days. He has a handicap of seven, and raises thousands of marks every year for the handicapped by organising an amateur event that draws together celebrities, friends, businessmen and leading amateurs.

But he always will be known as the footballer who revolutionised the role of the sweeper, viewed a generation ago as a dull, defensive role.

"It's a beautiful position," Beckenbauer said. "You can play your own game and don't have to take orders from a coach. I remember in the World Cup Final of 1966 when I was playing in midfield and marking Bobby Charlton. I had to follow him all over the field. It was awful.

"As a sweeper, you create your own ideas. I tried to turn the position into more of an attacking one, and the freedom the role now provides has made it so attractive today."

His son, Stefan, who is with Saarbrucken in the German Second Division, sometimes has played in the position his father graced so supremely, although he is more comfortable as a stopper.

Beckenbauer is not enamoured at his son following in his footsteps but does not intend to stand in his way.

"It's very difficult for him because of the name. Everywhere he goes, people recognise him and he's under a lot of pressure. But it was his idea to be a footballer. I never encouraged him."

Last season, after a spell with Wettingen in Switzerland, Stefan was thrown into the First Division of the Bundesliga, encountering the best forwards in the country week after week.

"He just seemed to get injured all the time," said father Franz.

"He never seemed to be able to string more than two or three matches together. Saarbrucken were relegated but he's much more comfortable now away from the limelight."

Scoring for Germany . . . Beckenbauer's salute during the 5-0 victory over Switzerland at Hillsborough in the 19[illegible] World Cup.

EARLY RESULTS in the Bundesliga suggest there will be another pulsating race to the finish, just as in the past three years. This should fill the grounds and keep the fans on edge to the final whistle.

Not one of the big four — defending champions Werder Bremen, record winners Bayern Munich, Eintracht Frankfurt and Borussia Dortmund — took maximum points from the opening two matches.

This will be an important season for German football. Werder, who won the Cup-winners Cup in 1992, are striving for the Champions Cup — it is ten years since Hamburg SV claimed the premier trophy for Germany — and are well equipped to challenge the top outfits.

Nothing went Germany's way last season despite Dortmund's heroics

Matthaus . . . attacks on Hoeness.

Top players risk £80,000 fine

GERMAN football, anxious to preserve the image of order and discipline, has embarked on a new, strict course to prevent disgruntled players from airing their grievances in the media to the detriment of their employers.

In some instances the top earners face extraordinarily hefty fines.

Borussia Dortmund are leading the way. They made their players accept that they could be fined up to two-and-a-half times their monthly wage. In the case of the highest-paid this would add up to a staggering £80,000, if they criticise the club, the directors, manager, or team-mates, in public.

The country's biggest club, Bayern Munich, have written a clause into every player's contract stipulating that such transgression would mean £400 off their pay.

The new tough line follows the unsavoury slanging match which went on for months between Bayern's captain of the national side, Lothar Matthaus, and the club's general manager, Uli Hoeness.

They traded insults, eagerly snapped up by the media, thus bringing the game into disrepute.

Opinions about this new gag are sharply divided. Koln's Danish team manager, Morten Olsen, agrees with Dortmund and Bayern, saying: "Criticism should be confined internally, just like in a family. A player can tell me I am useless, but not in public. The image of the club should not suffer."

Yugoslav-born Dragoslav Stepanovic, coach of Cup-holders Bayer Leverkusen, makes the same point: "If a player calls me names to my face, I accept that. If he tells that to the Press he will be fined to teach him a lesson."

The opponents of the scheme condemn the curb on free speech and accuse Bayern of over-reacting. The respected team chief of Karlsruher SC, Winfried Schafer, says dismissively: "When I hear what goes on at Bayern, I can't help laughing.

"It is normal to insist that any criticism should remain within the club. But surely it is not necessary to write it down and fix penalties."

A similar view is expressed by the management of champions Werder Bremen, where in 12 years no player was guilty of external carping, and at Kaiserslautern, where they reject a "catalogue" of verbal offences.

But Bayern's president, Dr. Fritz Scherer, is unrepentant.

"If players adopt a responsible attitude, then there is no need to threaten them with fines," he says.

"Unwarranted criticism, however, damages morale. I am convinced that the row between Matthaus and Hoeness cost us the title."

That clash upset everyone at Bayern. Hoeness attacked Matthaus and his live-in girlfriend, former Miss Switzerland Lolita Moreno, now a TV presenter, for their lifestyle. "These two are more interested in pursuing their own interests and in visiting night clubs than in helping Bayern to win the title," he said. "Lothar behaves like the world's number one, but he doesn't play like it."

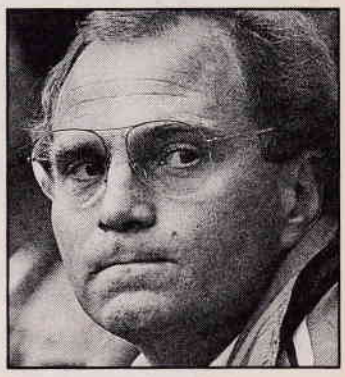
Hoeness also was sarcastic about Matthaus's involvement with the Munich press, who keep singing his praises even after a bad performance.

"The day will come when I shall read in a Friday paper, how well Matthaus played on Saturday," said Hoeness.

But Matthaus, World Cup-winning captain and former World and European Footballer of the Year, countered: "The manager is entitled to criticise my game, but has no right to interfere in my private life. It is not I who has caused the turmoil at Bayern, but Hoeness, through his stupid statements.

"He can't be allowed to do what he likes, even if he thinks he is God."

Matthaus knows that Hoeness has the support of the directors, but the players are on his side. Team captain



Hoeness . . . attacks on Matthaus.

and goalkeeper Raimond Aumann says: "We should be able to speak our mind, but we must express our feelings more carefully."

Others insist that freedom of speech must be maintained, but agree that any criticism should not be expressed in public.

Matthaus welcomed the new guidelines and explained: "At least I shall only be talking about myself in the future. I am pleased to leave the management to parley to the media."

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Werder the one to watch again

en route to the UEFA Cup Final. But even so, soccer is booming in Germany.

When Borussia Monchengladbach held an open day at the Bokelberg Stadium, a crowd of 40,000, almost the entire population, swarmed over the pitch. And this after a miserable season when the Gladbacher finished ninth.

Neighbouring Dortmund sold a record 28,000 season tickets. And last season, with the exception of the relegated works team of Bayer Uerdingen, all other Bundesliga clubs reported gates above the break-even figure. Bayern Munich reckoned they needed 28,000, and averaged nearly 46,000.

When the Federal League was started 30 years ago, the turnover was £7 million. Last term it rose to £130m.

Satellite television in particular is pouring in money — every one of the 18 Bundesliga clubs collected £1.6m before the first ball was kicked.

No wonder that the players no longer look over the Alps to the "promised" land of Italy, but elect to stay at home. Not one current international has joined an Italian club this season.

On the contrary, several have returned home, including Karlheinz Riedle, Andy Brehme and Bernd Schuster.

Kaiserslautern, who won both opening games, have acquired a wily, world-travelled team manager in Friedel Rausch, 53, who has been coaching for 22 years. He has been in Germany (Schalke and Eintracht Frankfurt), Turkey (Fenerbahce), Holland (MVV Maastricht), Greece (Iraklis) and lately in Switzerland (Lucerne and Basle).

Rausch is banking on the traditional strengths of the "Lauterer" — enthusiasm, team spirit, physical engagement, discipline and self-confidence. He has a good mixture of technicians and fighters, all hungry for success.

Brehme ended his spells abroad with Internazionale and Zaragoza and returned to Kaiserslautern, his original senior club. He will be 33 in November and his experience is invaluable.

Ciriaco Sforza, a midfielder also useful as a libero, and Switzerland's Footballer of the Year, will be even better when his team-mates get to know his style.

Bremen, alone among the favourites without any noteworthy new signings won the Super Cup by defeating Leverkusen on penalties, and the Bundesliga Fair Play trophy.

Long-serving manager Otto Rehhagel explains: "We are successful because we have started with the same team and the players all know each other. There is no point to bringing in new players if there is the risk that they will cause discord within an existing harmonious squad."

● The national squad,who will defend the World Cup in the US next year, have already booked all their flights and accommodation.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Goals, lovely goals

Dubo, Pizzi and Hugo queue for a shot

"GOLES SON AMORES" goes an old Spanish axiom, and recent weeks have demonstrated yet again that both goals and love can come in many forms, can work out expensive and are nothing to do with age.

Since Barcelona dived into the transfer market for Romario, Real Madrid have gambled £2.5million on Peter Dubovsky, a relatively unknown quantity from Slovakia; Valencia have paid Tenerife £500,000 to take Juan Antonio Pizzi on a year's loan; and Rayo Vallecano have taken the Mexican dentist, Hugh Sanchez, back to Madrid praying that age is no barrier to beauty and hoping to extract some more goals from him.

Watch for their progress this season because, curiously, none of them is even assured of a first-team place.

Romario arrived at Nou Camp aware that Ronald Koeman, Hristo Stoichkov and Michael Laudrup would fight tooth and nail to keep him out of the line-up.

Dubovsky will find the going equally tough at Bernabeu, where, even though his foreign competitors — Ivan Zamorano, Robert Prosinecki and Brazilian full-back Vitor — are evenly distributed in various departments of the Real squad, he also faces competition from the likes of Emilio Butragueno and Alfonso.

"Dubo" prefers to operate from deeper positions in the No. 10 channel and thus represents more of a rival for Butragueno than for an out-and-out front-man such as Zamorano.

He first caught Real's eye when they took on Slovan Bratislava in the UEFA Cup two seasons ago. He was then only 19, and had worked his way through the Slovan youth scheme, making his first-team debut at 17.

In that 1989-90 season he scored once in eight appearances and although seven goals in 26 games during the following season hardly proclaimed the advent of a prolific scorer, they established him as Slovakia's most promising footballer.

Dubovsky then "exploded" with 27 goals in 30 games as Slovan raced to victory in the Czechoslovakian championship in 1991-92, and last season hit 24 in 28 games. His international reputation was consolidated with a hat-trick during the RCS's surprising 5-2 World Cup win over Romania.

Juan Antonio Pizzi is, as they say, flour from a different sack. Nobody suspected that Tenerife, after losing attackers such as Quique and Pier, would loan him to Valenica for a year.

On the other hand, the £500,000 they will receive repays all but £50,000 of the fee they paid to Toluca for him in 1991, when they needed to replace the late Panamanian striker Rommel Fernandez, also sold to Valencia and killed in a road accident earlier this year.

Pizzi was born in Argentina in June 1960 and spent four years at Rosario Central before moving to Toluca. He claims that acclimatising to football played at 50km per hour and at an altitude of 2,800 metres restricted him to 12 goals in his first season. At Tenerife he scored 15 times in 34 games during a troubled first season played, until Jorge Valdano's arrival as coach, under the shadow of relegation. Last season, although Tenerife made history by qualifying for Europe, Valdano was more parsimonious in his use of a target-man striker and Pizzi started only 29 games, going on as a sub in five more and scoring 15 goals.

His hopes of regular first-team football with Guus Hiddink's Valencia may now hinge on the red-tape brigade in Madrid. Having married a Spanish girl, he has applied for Spanish nationality.

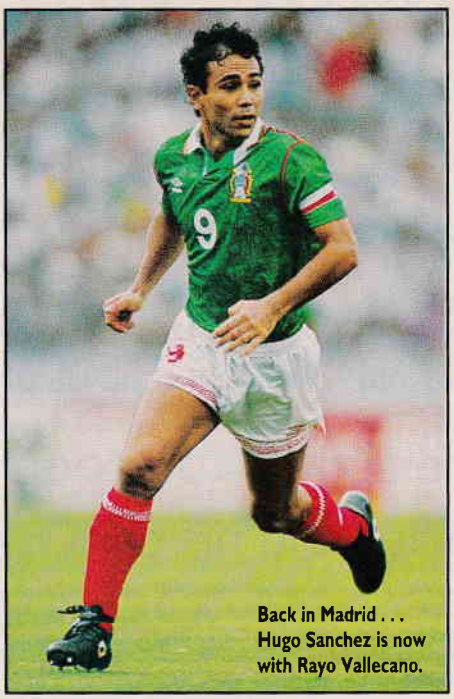
National boss Javier Clemente has pricked up his ears and if Pizzi is sworn in as a Spaniard on schedule in October, he will at least be spared from competing with Lubo Penev and company for one of the hotly-disputed foreign berths in the side.

Hugo Sanchez is now with his third Madrid club. At the previous two he was Spain's leading scorer five times and in 318 League games he performed his scoring somersault 218 times.

The problem for Rayo is two-fold. They have to hope that he is now something more than an illustrious entry in the history books (his displays for Mexico in the Copa America suggest he is not) and they have to try to placate a man who has developed into an awkward customer.

He played only eight games in his last season at Real (1991-92) after injury had reduced his 1990-91 campaign to 19 matches. He then left a rather sour aftertaste by claiming he was still a superstar while his post-injury form was clearly suspect.

Back in Mexico he had a tempestuous time at America, where the club's desire to please him even ran to the dismissal of the player who started going out with Hugo's ex-wife. Eventually Sanchez did not turn up for training, and the challenge on his return to Madrid is rebuilding his credibility on and off the pitch.


Back in Madrid . . . Hugo Sanchez is now with Rayo Vallecano.

While on the subject of imported strikers, the Velko Yotov case should not go without mention. Yotov, a 23-year-old Bulgarian international, was signed for £200,000 by newly-promoted Lleida. But what started as a simple story of country folk ended up lasting almost as long as The Archers.

Lleida suddenly heard a whisper that newly-relegated Espanol were sniffing around and promptly requested — and received — a fax from Levski Sofia to the effect that the player had been sold to them. That did not deter Espanol from paying £800,000, a large lump of it donated by one of the directors, who has made a fortune in the publishing game.

Lleida, at the moment, are organising their protest to UEFA, FIFA and, for all I know, the Pope.

Unfortunately, they clinched their deal in July, a few days after Yotov ceased to be a Levski player. He had been transferred to Botev Plovdiv . . . and they had been negotiating with Espanol.

What remains a mystery is why a young, ambitious striker should turn down a Spanish First Division club and emigrate from the Bulgarian national team to the Second Division.

GRAHAM TURNER

Whistling for a rise

SPANISH referees still have not stopped muttering about strike action, even though former international referee Victoriano Sanchez Arminio has made serious moves towards reforms since taking over the presidency of the Referees Association.

There is not unanimous approval for the first steps towards professionalism which have been made.

Last season, the 33 referees in the First Division pool averaged between 10 and 13 League matches, receiving a fee of £310 for each, plus travelling expenses. This payment was "clean", with nothing going to the taxman.

The proposals brought into effect by the League have not been greeted with a happy little whistle, even though they probably would multiply earnings by three.

The idea is to reduce the pool from 33 to 22, thus opening the door for more games per ref. They will then be paid a flat rate of £10,000 for the season, plus £250 (taxable) per match.

Even assuming there is no increase on the 13 matches handled last season, earnings will rise from fractionally over £4,000 to £13,250. If they officiate at around 20 matches, which seems feasible, the figure will rise to £15,000.

The referees do not consider this adequate for a full-time job with an early retirement age and a lengthy apprenticeship in the lower divisions. Nor are they happy about the self-employed status they will have to adopt on their tax returns.

Not all, however, go along with the call to down whistles.

Belts drawn tighter

THE CREAKING of leather at the start of the season was not always attributable to the creaking of new boots. The noise of belts being tightened was audible from the Basque country to Andalusia.

Although the estimated turnover at many clubs, at the time of writing, has yet to be rubber-stamped by shareholders at AGMs, half the clubs in the First Division are likely to operate on lower budgets than last term.

The fat cats, of course, continue to expand. Barcelona foresee a turnover of £35 million plus. Real Madrid, basing themselves on the modernised facilities at Bernabeu, have added £2.5m to their budget.

Valencia have permitted themselves a 12 per cent increase to retain third spot in the money league with a turnover of £14m. But there the extravagance ends if one accepts as logical the 250 per cent increases contemplated by the newly-promoted clubs, Racing Santander, Valladolid and Lleida. Real Sociedad also have based hopes of increased turnover on the extra capacity at the brand-new Anoieta stadium.

Despite rising costs, clubs such as Albacete, Logrones and Zaragoza are slicing about 10 per cent off their budget for 1993-94. Atletico Madrid's economy continues to mystify all and sundry. And Sevilla are now preparing to face the painful headaches of the post-Maradona hangover.

The accounts for last season reveal a loss of £750,000 — and they include the sudden sale of Nacho Conte to Tenerife for an identical figure. That means the nine months of Maradona mania cost the club £1.5m, according to the balance sheet. The combination of an urgent need for austerity plus wiping Maradona off the payroll has persuaded the Sevilla board to knock 40 per cent off the estimates for the 1993-94 campaign.

WELCOME TO DISASTER

The big one arrives too soon for De Vries and his club.

NO EASTERN European club has undergone more startling changes in the past two years than what was Hungary's Army club, Budapest Honved, now called Kispest-Honved, and Manchester United's intriguing first-round opponents in the Champions Cup.

Louis de Vries, the Belgian entrepreneur who had a majority shareholding in the limited company when the football club became independent from the all-sports club, was spot on when he said that to oppose United was both "fantastic" and "a disaster" . . . the former because it rekindles the memory of the Hungarian club's greatest days, the latter because this tie has come a season too soon for a young, attractive, but hardly match-hardened team.

The club used to be arch-conservative in administration and character, with direct financial support from the Ministry of Defence from 1949, when the original Kispest Athletic Club (formed 1909) was taken over by the ministry, until the mid-1980s, when state support for football clubs was phased out.

Now, however, Kispest-Honved have become a limited company, owned by a foreigner, and now managed by Martti Kuusela, former supremo of Finland's national team.

To recap: In July 1990 the name-change became official as the football club separated from the previous all-sports Budapest Honved Sport Egyesulet.

By the end of the next season a limited company had been formed, with de Vries, 46, paying nearly £700,000 for a 51 per cent shareholding.

De Vries was born in The Hague but since childhood has lived in Antwerp and is a Belgian citizen.

His football career ended with injury at 18. He moved into the world of music promotion, returned to football as general manager of Royal Antwerp, and through a Hungarian in Belgium introduced Hungarian players to Belgian clubs.

Ferencvaros baulked at the creation of a joint venture, but Kispest (still Honved then) were prepared to compromise. The deal was completed speedily.

Casualties along the way included Dr Gyorgy Mezey, much-respected manager, who had guided the club to their 12th championship in 1991 and whose teams had given Sampdoria, eventual losing finalists, two good games in the Champions Cup later that year. After the 1991-92 season Mezey's contract was not renewed.

His replacement, Jozsef Verebes, failed to deliver quickly enough, despite a host of signings, and was dismissed after eight League matches.

De Vries, in another decisive move, turned to 47-year-old Kuusela, at that time out of work. The recent facts speak for themselves: five points adrift of the leaders last October, champions in June.

This 13th championship, and seventh in ten sessions was achieved amid a silent battle by Kuusela and de Vries with some members of the Kispest board.

Even in the celebrations on the day the title was won with a 5-1 thrashing of Diosgyor, the manager had only a verbal assurance from de Vries that his contract would be renewed for another year.

"I don't know what will happen now," Kuusela said. "I trust only de Vries and if he says I stay then I stay."

Next day the board, in a rather belated show of confidence, announced that a one-year extension had been agreed.

At least Kuusela, relying on an interpreter, had no difficulties with his players. "Their response to me was more than I expected," he said.

"The footballers here in Hungary, when they accept you, don't give you anything to worry about. They worked hard, to achieve this."

That Kuusela could settle in a hostile environment, with cheap jibes being made about his worth as a ski-trainer rather than football coach, depended on broader support. It came from his coaching assistants — Lajos Szurgent, Laszlo Kiss and Kalman Toth — all with deep understanding of the wiles of Hungarian players.

De Vries sums up: "After 30 games the best team is on top, no matter how you look at it. We wiped Vac off the field at home and would have won had we not missed a penalty.

"Fradi had a very good season, and beat us twice, but I still think we have a more integrated team, and on average, our quality of play is higher.

"Everybody here has heard of

Mobile . . . Istvan Pisont has a roving role in the midfield.

HONVED

CLUB FOCUS

Kispest-Honved Football Club

Founded: August 3, 1909 as Kispest Athletic Club, changed to Budapest Honved Sport Egyesulet December 18, 1949, changed to present title July 1, 1991.
Colours: Red and black.
Stadium: Bozsik Stadion, Ujtemeto ut. 1-3, Budapest XIX, 1193 Hungary.
Telephone/fax: (361) 147-3958, (010) 147-3970.
President: Lazlo Benko.
Manager: Martti Kuusela.
Managing Director: Mihaly Kozma.
Technical Director: Tamas Beres.

HONOURS

Hungarian championship *(13)*: 1949-50, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1979-80, 1983-84, 1984-85, 1985-86, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1990-91, 1992-93.
Hungarian Cup *(4)*: 1935, 1964,1966, 1989.
Mitropa (Central European) Cup: 1950.

Manchester United and many people in England have heard of us.

"But the League here doesn't provide us with enough competitive games to prepare us for European football.

"We have a good, young team and, given time and maybe some foreign input, we could become contenders. But this tie is a little too soon for us."

Kispest's most famous legend, Ferenc Puskas, player-manager when the first two championship titles were won after World War II, says: "Kispest are the best team in Hungary now and in the last three weeks of the championship they played very well to win it."

Another, more recent, member of any Kispest All-time XI is Mihaly Kozma, leading scorer three times compared with Puskas's five, and now managing director.

"In my playing days, players stayed at a club for longer than now," he says. "So it is obvious that with so many players new to each other, the manager has worked hard with the team.

"How otherwise could the team recover five points? This was one of the hardest championships to win in my time here. There were so many attacks from the media after the dismissal of Mezey and Verebes."

Although having 11 full internationals at the end of last season, Kispest have no outfield player to rank alongside Lajos Detari, the star export in the mid-1980s, let alone the incomparable Puskas.

But four of the 1990-91 championship-winning team helped ensure this latest success.

Several of the additions in Mezey's short reign have distinct promise, and shine easily within the Hungarian galaxy; in the wider cosmos they may but flicker.

The line of five midfielders, with former play-maker Istvan Pisont now remodelled into one of the roving pack, proved adept in domestic play — the 59 goals were spread around.

Gabor Halmai, only 21, could become an all-embracing midfield operator, something the team need.

Istvan Hamar, a 22-year-old out-and-out winger with flowing locks and the mood of his hero, Mario Kempes, to match, can devastate defenders, yet needs more strength to withstand challengers and retain possession.

He receives experienced support from Istvan Vincze, formerly a winger but now employed behind Hamar for up-and-back running, supporting those in possession, but rarely threatening around the penalty area.

Ferenc Orosz and Pal Fischer, joint leading League scorers in the previous season when with Vac (on loan) and Siofok respectively, had indifferent fortunes this time.

Fischer, now seemingly playing out his time, started in only 16 matches while Orosz, after recovering from injury, managed only six goals in 20 starts.

Defensively, Kispest man-mark in front of a libero, vary the use of defenders making premeditated forward runs, and seek to achieve that special compactness which minimises gaps in their own half.

In the Euro games, United's pace and passing going forward and on the flanks will place greater responsibility on Kispest's players, though Kuusela's crew will have hope while they can provoke Gary Pallister and Steve Bruce into ground-level, one-on-one challenges.

The squad trained for a week at Matrahaza, in the wine-growing area, in mid-July, before undertaking a pre-season trip to Belgium and England.

BRIAN O'SULLIVAN

Mature . . . Istvan Vincze adds experience to the forward line.

MANAGER

Martti KUUSELA.
Aged 47 (born 9th October 1945).
Graduate of Koln sports school, won managerial spurs with HJK of Helsinki, with the double in 1981, before managing national team. Later took over B1903 Copenhagen.

Out of work when Kispest offer came. Combines best of Scandinavian and German styles: great believer in technique and individual expression. Easy-going nature though firm, open and straight with players. Fluent speaker of German and English.

DEFENDERS

Istvan BROCKHAUSER.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 29 (born 3rd May 1964).
League debut 1987 for Vac, joined Ujpest 1988, in championship-winning squad 1989-90, international debut March, 1990 v United States (2-0). Nine caps, as stand-in for foreign-based Zsolt Petry, 164 League appearances, 19 last season after injury.

Ferenc ROTT.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 22 (born 6th October 1970).
At Pecs and Honved before making Division One debut in 1991 for Veszprem, ended last season with 19 appearances, 23 in total.

Jozsef CSABI.
Right-back.
Aged 26 (born 14th February 1967).
Joined club from Szolnik MAV MTE, league debut 1988, national team debut March this year v Japan in Fukuoka. Five caps, 122 League appearances.

Attila PLOKAI.
Left-back.
Aged 24 (Born 17th July 1969).
Debut for home-town club March, 1987, brought by Gyorgy Mezey to Kispest for 1991-92 season. Strong reliable, no frills, powerful, has made 138 appearances, 13 goals.

Jozsef SZABADOS.
Defender.
Aged 21 (born 1st December 1971).
Local product and Under-21 international eased into first team after debut in 1990. Fine prospect. 22 League appearances.

Gabor ARKI.
Defender.
Aged 23 (born 9th December 1969).
League debut for Kispest 1990, loaned to Csepel, helped them win promotion a year ago, has made 31 appearances.

MIDFIELDERS

Istvan PISONT.
Midfield.
Aged 23 (born 16th May 1970).
Debut for Kispest March 1989, national team debut v Argentina, February, 1991. Has 17 caps, 121 League appearances, 17 goals.

Bela ILLES.
Midfield.
Aged 25 (born 27th April 1968).
Division One debut for Haladas VSE 1988, signed by Verebes last summer and made most starts (28) in League, scoring seven goals. National team debut October 1991 v Norway. 7 caps, 156 appearances, 32 goals.

Gabor HALMAI.
Midfield.
Aged 21 (born 7th January 1972).
Under-21 international, League debut 1990 for Videoton. 78 League matches, ten goals.

Jozsef DURO.
Midfield.
Aged 27 (born 26th July 1966).
League debut for nearby Debrecen in 1985, three seasons with Vasas and one with Siofok before joining Kispest. National debut March 1990 v United States. Has 15 caps, 187 League appearances, 23 goals.

Istvan SALLOI.
Midfield.
Aged 26 (born 26th September 1966).
Transferred to Kispest in summer. Debut for Vidi in 1985, three seasons there before two at Raba ETO and then back to his former club. National debut April 1992, v Ukraine. 7 caps, 166 League games, 47 goals.

Istvan VINCZE.
Midfield.
Aged 26 (born 22nd January 1967).
Debut in national team January 1986 v Asia XI in Doha, before moving to Lecce for two frustrating. Mezey brought him back. Has 28 caps (five goals), 180 League games, 55 goals.

STRIKERS

Ferenc OROSZ.
Striker.
Aged 23 (born 11th October 1969).
Equal leading scorer in previous season (with Pal Fischer) but ankle injury meant delayed start to last season. League debut in 1989 with present club, spent time at Volan and Dorog before being loaned to Vac and surprising most defences. National debut December 1991, v Mexico. Four caps, 61 League appearances, 25 goals.

Pal FISCHER.
Striker.
Aged 27 (born 29th January 1966).
Most experienced squad member, debut in 1983 for Ferencvaros, with Ajax in championship-winner season 1989-90, then with Ferencvaros and Siofok (for whom he was equal leading scorer) before Verebes brought him to Kispest. National debut November, 1988, v Greece. Disappointing career in national side but 173 League games, 70 goals.

Istvan HAMAR.
Winger
Aged 22 (born 6th October 1970).
Skilful, fast, with the looks and style of Mario Kempes, his hero. Debut 1989 for Csepel, helped them win Division Two west section before joining Kispest for last season. National debut v Republic of Ireland last May, scoring two goals as second-half substitute. One other cap, 48 League appearances, six goals.

Istvan STEFANOV.
Forward.
Aged 29 (born 19th July 1964).
Brought from Csepel in summer after missing only two matches for promoted club last season and two in previous season when helping them regain Division One status. Previous clubs: Medosz Erdert and Honved.

INSIDE OUT

AN IRREGULAR COMPILATION OF IRREVERENT COMMENT

Lisbon, not Luton

JIMMY GREAVES seems to be losing his sense of geography as he gets older.

As a player he could find the goal blindfolded in a crowded penalty box, but he misses his way in his latest book, claiming that England once beat Portugal at Luton.

Somehow, Greaves and co-author Norman Giller have managed to confuse Kenilworth Road with Lisbon.

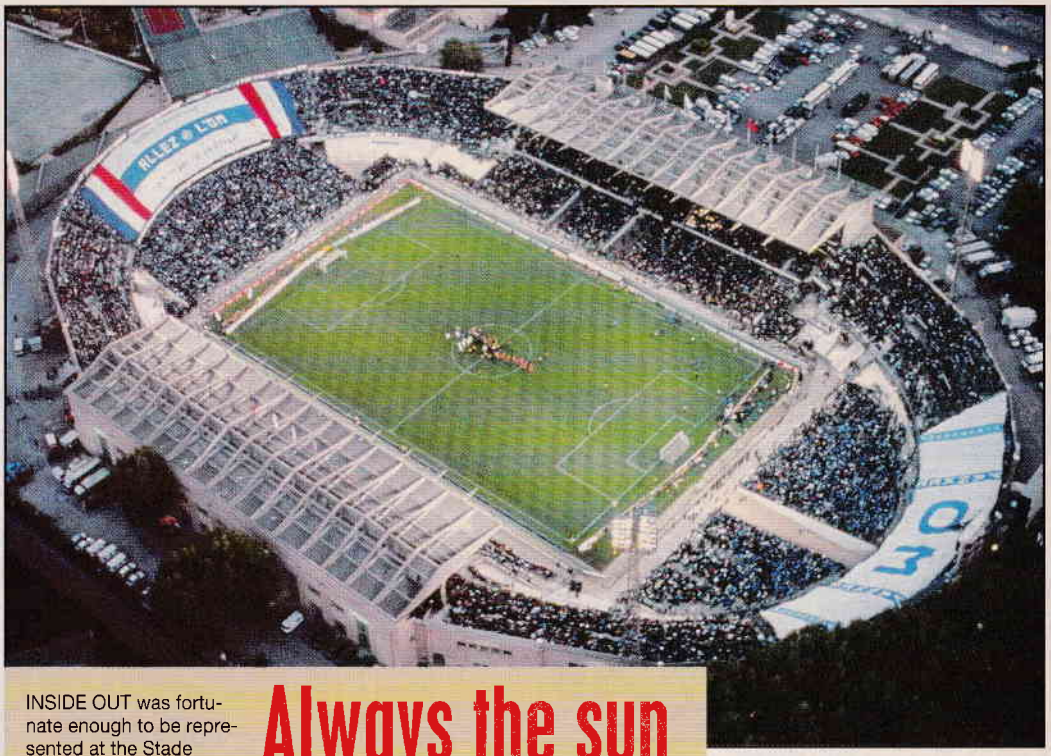
Apart from that, and the use of the term "dizzy array" instead of "disarray", Don't Shoot the Manager (Boxtree, £9.99) is an entertaining and revealing insight into the roles played by England's seven bosses.

Blanket coverage

HOW many sheets and blankets do you need to cover a football pitch?The answer will be known soon, after an unusual charity event at Luton.

The club and workers from Whitbread the brewers are getting together to cover the Kenilworth Road playing area with bedding donated by well-wishers.

After the count, the goods will go to the Salvation Army for distribution among hostels for the homeless.



Always the sun

INSIDE OUT was fortunate enough to be represented at the Stade Velodrome in August for the big game between Marseille and Paris Saint-Germain.

The match itself was a tedious, foul-ridden affair, but the atmosphere in the stadium more than made up for that.

Behind one of the goals The Ultras, Marseille's hard-core supporters, had a banner which ran the entire width of the pitch. The banner said: "For 94 years the story of Olympique has illuminated Marseille and the World, and like the sun it will never fade."

Then, as the teams ran on to the pitch, broad blue banners were unfurled from the front of the terraces up to the back, creating a spectacular blue sunrise.

Marseille won 1-0, with a goal by Alen Boksic two minutes from time, triggering off celebrations all across the city. As we left the stadium, fireworks erupted into the night sky, illuminating the Velodrome . . . just as The Ultras had forecast.

Not-so-secret Agent

LIVERPOOL'S Zimbabwean connection has doubled in strength. Bruce Grobbelaar has now been joined at Anfield by Agent Sawu, an international striker who is on trial with the club.

We can't help thinking that a far more appropriate signing would be their international team-mate . . . Henry McKop!

Incidentally, we are wondering how the loan deal came about. Does Agent have an agent?

Pentti to the point

PENTTI HIETANEN, one of *WORLD SOCCER'S* correspondents in Scandinavia, has some pertinent points to make after watching Portsmouth.

"I have always liked English football, but it is becoming harder and harder to defend," he says.

"The players as individuals were not that bad, but the thinking is badly outdated. English coaches should forget 1966 and get modern. Jim Smith (above) is still paying homage to Ramsey's wingless wonders and that simply won't do any more against the Continental sides."

We're sure Pentti is not alone in his thinking.

Fully mobile

THE best of the fanzines, *When Saturday Comes,* is still keeping ahead of the pack.

The latest innovation is a mobile, one of those cutouts you hang over a child's bed in order to induce sleep.

This one, offered as "a solution to football-inspired insomnia", is said to ensure an immediate place in the land of nod "before you say can FA Carling Premierszzzzz".

The mobile depicts, among others, a cricketer (representing the close season, all two weeks of it), a 1970s hairstyle, sad footballing autobiographies, and readers who say *WSC* isn't as funny as it used to be.

Sadly it isn't, but it's still a good read with an incisive edge to many well-reasoned theories — something that rivals confuse with mere invective. Keep up the good work, *WSC*.

The Paraguayan polka

THE soccer set-up in Paraguay grows ever more farcical. Early this season a referee sent off 20 players in a Second Division match, and now there has been a fifth change of national coach this year.

Sergio Makarian resigned after holding the job for 16 months, to be followed by Hector Corte. He quit in June, just before the Copa America began, to be replaced by Alicio Solalinde.

Hardly had the squad returned from the Copa than Solalinde left. Valdir Espinoza replaced him, only to resign in a row over money.

Now Solalinde has resumed the position . . . but for how long? Any bets on Corte taking over again? Followed by Makarian?

Anyone seen George?

DOES anyone know the whereabouts of George Rawsthorn Swarbrick, thought to have been with Preston and Liverpool before playing in Holland for Alkmaar in 1955?

If so, please ask him to contact Jan Visser, Nieuwlandersingel 10, å814 CH Alkmaar.

Not so hot

LIVERPOOL'S Hungarian reject, Istvan Kozma, recently was referred to in an English national newspaper as Istvan Korma. The article was by David Lacey of *The Guardian* . . . not Steve Curry of *The Daily Express.*

COMPILED BY DAVID PROLE AND JOHN KELLY

FRANCE

Sarramagna's squad start well

Experienced . . . Philippe Anziani of Martigues.

MARTIGUES, who surprisingly found their way into the top division under a very experienced manager, Christian Sarramagna, have made a good start.

Sarramagna, now 41, joined Saint Etienne in 1968 and played for them with distinction for ten years.

Later he became assistant manager, then manager, but his greatest managerial feat has been to bring little Martigues, whose greatest gate was a mere 10,000, up into the elite.

In the close season Martiques made no bones about their evident fear that the squad who had gained promotion would not be big enough and good enough for the top. They signed no fewer than 11 new players, while letting as many as eight go.

Credit to Sarramagna: the new team seem to have bedded down surprisingly quickly and well, giving a good account of themselves even against the most fashionable. And Martigues will never be fashionable.

Their trouble in the past, and the reason they parted with so many players this summer, was that they borrowed so many of them. This time only the Auxerre left-back David Mazzolini is on loan.

The newcomers include the 32-year-old attacker Philippe Anziani, who has been around and around, over the years. He has played for Sochaux, Monaco, Nantes, Matra Racing Paris and Toulon, making 451 First Division appearances.

Another forward, 26-year-old Patrick Collot, and the 31-year-old defender, Thierry Rabat, also have moved from Toulon.

Have Rennes bought a pig in a poke? No disrespect to the Bulgarian international sweeper Nicolai Iliev, who has played over 50 times for his country and was just about the last Bulgarian of any status left there. But knee trouble and operations have ruled him out until the winter break.

Was that knee suspect when he was signed, or did it cave in on him subsequently, in a training incident, which provoked and explained it?

Even the general manager of Rennes, Gerard Lefillatre, had to admit that the injury stirred up old troubles.

"It's the kind of accident which is totally unpredictable," he says. Which somewhat begs the question.

The Marseille story has been breaking so fast, has followed so many bizarre and complex twists and turns, that I do not propose to try to keep up with it. But investigating Judge Bernard Beffy is an interesting figure.

He is, be it known, a football fan. He was brought up in Lyon, and used to watch those gifted inside-forwards, little Serge Chiesa and Fleury Di Nallo. As a player, he prides himself that he was always san artist rather than a hard man.

Cantona, Gravelaine and Giresse are the players he admires, he says. Not Papin. He thinks that football artists are disappearing, brushed aside by the physical types. So football is losing its element.

Judge Beffy says: "Paris and Marseille have a rivalry which has lasted nearly ten years. It becomes a question of honour, which I strongly deplore.

"Although I love football, I knew nothing about the pro game before this affair. I've discovered footballers who are psychologically very fragile. This sudden wealth nurtures pride and vanity. They said, I believe the rivalry between the Parisian and Marseille directors is stronger than that between the players."

And the media are not wholly innocent.

"Certain inflammatory revelations whip up the hatred between the two teams."

Jean-Claude Suadeau is manager of Nantes and has no direct connection with the horrid affair. But he is destressed that it has involved no fewer than three ex-Nantes players: Jean-Jacques Eydelie, who now seems lost to the game for ever, and the two Valenciennes men, Jorge Burruchaga, a hero of the 1986 World Cup Final, and Christophe Robert.

It hurts his heart, Suadeau says, to see his three exes now.

"They are not Nantes men. They are just three lads whom I knew through football at a certain moment."

Eydelie, he says, is a born player who lives for football in every shape and form. A winner, a charming lad and sometimes completely unpredictable.

Burruchaga is "perfectly coherent" in whatever he says and does. A world champion, a leader, but carrying deep traces of the injuries which tormented him for so long and nearly put him out of the game.

Robert, in whose garden the money was found, was always a provocative figure, according to Suaudeau.

" A lad full of humour, sensitivity, adorable. Sometimes choleric. I absolutely don't believe that Christophe did that to make 250,000 francs. It isn't possible. He is superbalanced in his relationship with his wife and his children."

Alas, Suadueau's generosity and beliefs are not reflected elsewhere. Least of all by the magistrates.

ANDRE DUCLOS

AUSTRIA

Baric looks on the bright side

THE championship race began with a reduced First Division (from 12 clubs to 10), but after the initial rounds there was nothing to suggest that the much vaunted reform would improve the quality.

The table looked as if it had been printed upside down. Instead of the big guns the two clubs who saved themselves from the relegation pool, Sturm Graz and Modling, were leading.

The first big surprise was Austria Salzburg's 2-1 away win over the champions, FK Austria Wien. International striker Heimo Pfeiffenberger scored both goals in Salzburg's first success on Austria's ground for 11 years.

There was jubilation in Salzburg, who twice in a row had been pipped for the title by FK on goal difference. "We won't make the same mistake," said their coach, Otto Baric.

He has signed one of the country's best players, international midfielder Peter Artner from Admira Wacker, in his effort to win the club's first championship.

But the next couple of games brought Baric back to reality with defeats at home to Modling (2-1) and at St Polten (1-0).

FK Austria's fans were shocked at their team's insipid display when losing 3-2 at St Polten. The Austrianer were weakened by the departure of Lithuanian striker Valdas Ivanauskas (to Hamburg), but they recovered with a 3-0 victory at Rapid, and followed by overcoming Admira Wacker 2-0.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

SWITZERLAND

Cash crisis as TV pulls the plug

THE surprise champions, FC Aarau, made the early running but after only three rounds no team had maximum points.

The main topic is the financial crisis, the like of which has never been known in this country in modern times.

Low gates are bad enough, but now television has withdrawn live coverage because of modest viewing figures, while sponsors are reluctant to invest in a declining product.

National TV channels who broadcast 11 League games live last season, have asked for a little more time to think over their future plans, and the omens are not good.

The Saturday games were not popular for transmissions, while during the week there apparently are no free dates.

No wonder that the clubs are forced to economise. Most cannot afford expensive foreigners, so that mainly inexperienced but cheaper imports have been engaged, and 90 per cent of all transfers are loans.

Nearly all clubs have had to cut salaries, while bonuses are paid only to those deemed "deserving cases".

The situation is so bad that even the successful national team manager, Roy Hodgson, is appealing for state grants to help development of the game.

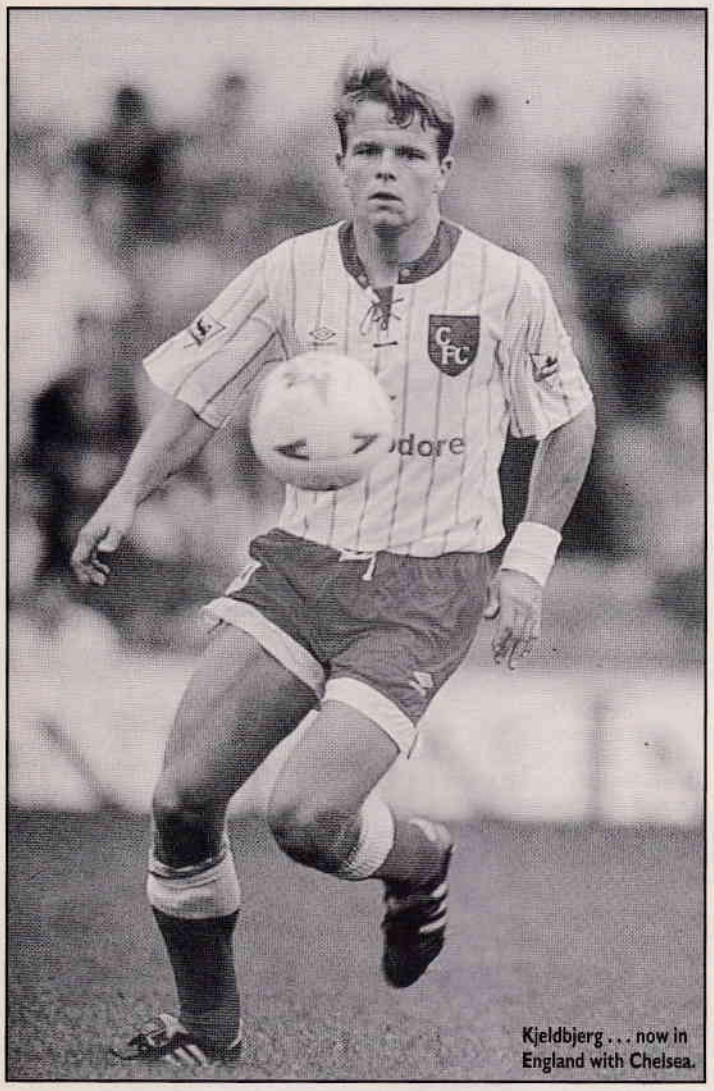
"We need funds to invest in football at grass roots," Hodgson pleads.

"Football should be treated like the arts, opera, or theatre, which are subsidised by the relevant government departments. Soccer can no longer finance itself.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

DENMARK.....

Brian's big brother is back


Kjeldbjerg . . . now in England with Chelsea.

DENMARK, boosted by the shock return of Michael Laudrup to the national side, kept on course for the World Cup finals with a 4-0 demolition of Lithuania.

He couldn't get on the scoresheet, but earned an emotional ovation from the sell-out crowd at the new Parken stadium in Copenhagen.

"I'd never heard anything like it," said the elder Laudrup, "not even at a Champions Cup final with Barcelona."

His return meant a tactical switch with only one striker, Frank Pingel, up front. The system worked adequately enough, but it was obvious Laudrup will take a couple of matches to settle down after his long absence.

His return was kept secret by manager Richard Moller Nielsen, who announced Laudrup's recall to incredulous pressmen.

Former international Frank Arnesen acted as middle-man between the pair who fell out over tactics three years ago.

The renewed confidence at international level has meant another exodus of players to big-money foreign clubs. Silkeborg's young central defender Jakob Kjeldbjerg joined Chelsea for £350,000, while his partner Marc Rieper attracted interest from both Newcastle and Blackburn. And young midfielder Stig Tofting, on the fringe of the national side, earned a move to Hamburg SV in the Bundesliga.

The domestic Superliga nevertheless continues to flourish, with attendances up another 14 per cent after five rounds of the new season.

Early pace-setters are OB Odense, despite the loss of international striker Lars Elstrup through retirement. They beat Silkeborg 2-0 in a top-of-the-table clash, and are set to face Arsenal in the Cup-winners Cup, having disposed of Slovenia's Publikum in the preliminary round.

They were also impressive in a fine 1-0 away win at champions FC Copenhagen, Allan Nielsen grabbing the goal with just four minutes left.

It was a trying early season for FC Copenhagen, who also lost 3-0 to lowly B1909 in the Cup.

The B1909 side, also from Odense, lie bottom of the First Division, and in their previous match had been demolished 6-1 by Esbjerg. But they earned a Cup quarter-final place against Silkeborg, who beat Holstebro 8-1.

JIM HOLDEN

SWEDEN.....

A name to remember

NOT many people in Sweden knew about midfielder Par Zetterberg (above) when he went on as a substitute for the final 11 minutes in the World Cup tie against Austria in May.

Midfielder Zetterberg, who is 22, has never kicked a ball in the Swedish top division. Now, after scoring in Sweden's 5-0 win over Israel, he is being hailed as a trump card for national manager Tommy Svensson.

Zetterberg comes from Falkenberg, a popular holiday resort on Sweden's west coast. He joined Belgium's Anderlecht at 16 in order to learn the ropes as a professional, but quickly became forgotten in Sweden.

"I played one match for our Olympic team, against Japan in Gothenburg," he says.

"I was substituted after 60 minutes and our FA simply forgot that I existed. That was a big disappointment, for I would have loved to play at the Barcelona Olympics."

Last season Zetterberg went on loan to Charleroi and managed to score a few vital goals. Svensson sent his assistant, Tord Grip, to watch him, and Grip was impressed by his pace, technique and strength.

Zetterberg helped Charleroi to the Cup Final, where they lost 2-0 to Standard Liege. But now, with Napoli's Jonas Thern injured, young Par's emergence could prove doubly welcome for his country.

PENTTI HIETANEN

FINLAND.....

Jimmy starts a whirlwind

JIMMY MYLLYOJA, a former Finnish First Division coach and player, stirred up a minor whirlwind by claiming that match-fixing in Finland has been much more common than generally thought.

Myllyoja, now a columnist, says "In 1975, when I played for OTP Oulu, one opposing goalkeeper let in two really soft goals. The matter only became clear to us when we went on to pick up our bonuses.

"Our manager told us that there were none, and that we no-hopers should play better so that there would be no need for him to bribe opposing players!" Myllyoja adds: "The media continually turns a blind eye to the fixing. Nobody wants to rock the boat.

"But who can trust men who, as players, were prepared to throw matches, when they become coaches, managers, directors and administrators?"

The opposing goalkeeper in the match in question says that Myllyoja's accusations are nonsense.

ICELAND.....

HELGI SIGURDSSON, 19-year-old Fram Reykjavik striker, is on the right track for the Golden Boot award for the 1993 season in Iceland. Sigurdsson scored ten goals in 18 matches last year and has 14 goals in only 13 games this time.

He already plays for the Under-21 national team and is thought to be moving abroad, along with Runar Kristinsson of KR Reykjavik and Agust Gylfason of Valur, before long.

KR Reykjavik, top candidates for the championship, are only around the middle of the table.

Manager Ivan Sochor has been sacked and Janus Gudlaugsson, former manager of the youth team, has taken over.

Nothing seems to be able to stop the IA Akranes express. The team, who won the Second Division in 1991, became champions last season and are favourites again, with a ten-point advantage over FH.

IA also have reached the Cup Final against IBK Keflavik.

The keys to their success are manager Gudjon Thordarson, his son Thordur (11 goals in 13 matches) and Siggi Jonsson, the former Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday player.

BJORN HRAFNSSON

MALTA.....

Brincat may go to Germany

HAMRUN SPARTANS and Malta midfielder Joe Brincat, proclaimed Player of the Year in Malta, is the target for a German club.

"My only remaining wish is to play abroad" commented a jubilant Brincat after winning the top individual honour the local game can offer.

Spartans will miss him greatly if the deal comes off.

Premier Division clubs have been busily engaged in the transfer market — in particular from abroad now that three foreigners are permitted.

Champions Floriana have re-engaged Mark Miller as player-coach and Irish goalgetter Brian Crawley, and seem set to agree terms with "Big John" Linford, once of Ipswich, who left a good impression during the club's recent pre-season training camp in Norwich, managing a hat-trick against a Norwich City XI.

Sliema Wanderers, having undergone a major reshuffle on the administrative side, have three new recruits — defender Kevan Smith from Darlington, ex-Portsmouth forward George Lawrence, and goalkeeper Istvan Taiorsi from Hungarians Kispest Honved.

John Micallef also has arrived, from Hamrun.

Valletta have Brazilian Osnir Populin and Albanian Edmond Lufi, with another Brazilian signing in sight, plus Charlie Galea, signed from Rabat.

Hamrun have an Italian goalkeeper, Alessandro Zeninelli, with Bosnian defender Nebiosa Melinkovic and Argentinian striker Cesar Paiber.

Another important signing was put through by newly-promoted Mqabba, who acquired the 35-year-old former Yugsolav international goalkeeper, Slobodan Janjus.

All seems set for another interesting campaign. Will Floriana again emerge as the dominating force? Or will the likes of Valletta, Hamrun or Sliema take over?

DOMENICO AQUILINA

GREECE.....

Kalamata are aiming high

AN EARTHQUAKE destroyed part of the southern Greek port of Kalamata seven years ago, but the local soccer club are not doing too badly.

Kalamata pushed their way into the Second Division at the end of last season, and 60-year-old owner Stavros Papadopoulos has his sights set on a high place in the First.

He spent more than many of the First Division clubs on new players, more than 200 million drachmas, and has laid the foundations for a new double-deck stadium, including a training centre.

Last year the team played on a dirt pitch borrowed from an amateur outfit.

The land where the stadium is being built is owned by Papadopoulos, and is only 300 metres from the shoreline. There will be seats for 15,000 spectators, and additional space for 5,000 standing.

Papadopoulos wants the job done inside a year, and will not ask for money from the state.

"It will be an investment for Kalamata and its people, who are bouncing back after the heavy damage caused by the earthquake," he said.

Kalamata's captures include national team defender Pavlos Papaioanou (above right) from champions AEK Athens, and Christos Dimopoulos from Athinaikos.

The team's pre-season training camp was set up in England, where Kalamata came through with excellent results in exhibition matches.

Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis hosted the Greek national team to a cocktail party in honour of their first appearance in the World Cup finals.

The national coach, Alketas Panagoulias, has recommended that the team train once a week, and that friendly matches should be scheduled, with Greek teams if foreign opponents are not available.

The Greek First Division is now home to 22 Serbs, out of 52 foreign players signed for the new season.

In the Second Division, another 22 Serbs figure among 34 imports.

There are nine foreign coaches in the First Division and nine Greeks. The foreigners comprise three from Holland, two from Serbia, and one each from Poland, Ukraine, Germany and Bosnia.

LOU ECONOMOPOULOS

TURKEY.....

'Guests' from five continents

THERE are 43 imported players from five continents registered with 15 of the top 16 Turkish clubs for the new season.

Only newly-promoted Karabukspor are relying solely on home-born products.

The 43 are from a total of 23 countries, ranging from Peru (Francesco of Besiktas) to Australia (Mitchell of Altay).

Ages go from 35 (Yugoslavian Yesic of Altay) to 21 (Argentinian Nartello of Besiktas).

One of the most interesting close-season transfers was that of Kubilay Turkyilmaz (above), the Swiss international striker who has Turkish parents.

Turkyilmaz, who was born in Switzerland, played for Bellinzona and Servette in that country before joining Bologna in Italy. Now he has signed for Galatasaray on a two-year contract netting him 400,000 marks plus 5,000 per game. Bologna get $1m dollars. The whole deal is a record for Turkish football.

Another big fee changed hands when Fenerbahce signed libero Andreas Wagenhaus from Dynamo Dresden for 1,200,000 marks — 800 to the club and 400 to the player.

Wagenhaus made a good start, helping his new club to win the Prime Minister's Cup, the first tournament of the season, by beating Trabzonspor 1-0 in extra time. The trophy was presented by Tansu Ciller, Turkey's first woman PM.

Coach Holger Osieck was pleased with the result but not with the performance. "We were lucky — they were much better than us," he said.

Galatasaray won the President's Cup when they defeated Besiktas 2-0. This was their fourth trophy in a year, following the Sport's Writers Cup.

Mustafa scored after 40 seconds, and Hakan added the second in the 64th minute.

HASAN CEMALI

CYPRUS.....

Calm after 'fixing' storm

DUST blown up by allegations of fixed results on last season's final day had barely settled before the ball started rolling again.

Aris Salonika were relegated and complained that opponents had fielded under-strength teams in certain matches, virtually ensuring points for opponents.

But Aris has been involved in some surprise results earlier in the season, and when the time came for an investigative committee to get going, nothing much happened.

Players, officials and journalists — who had left blank spaces in their papers rather than report certain matches — all failed to produce sufficient evidence for a prosecution.

There is a change in the Premier Division with three clubs to be relegated and only one to be promoted. This is part of a four-year plan to reduce the number of clubs from 14 to ten.

The most notable move among the coaches is that of Andreas Mouskallis, who helped Ethnikos to mid-table last season and has now joined Anorthosis widely regarded as championship material.

Three foreigners can now play at one time for Cypriot clubs, who have been busy importing outsiders. Most of them come from Serbia and Georgia, but none can be called a household name.

ISRAEL.....

Four clubs in fraud check

FOOTBALL has been rocked by a police investigation into an alleged match-rigging scandal involving four Second Division clubs.

Players and officials of Hakoah Ramat Gan, Hapoel Hadera, Hapoel Daliat el Carmel and Maccabi Yavne are now being questioned. Should the police press charges, it is possible that one or more of the clubs will be relegated.

Meanwhile, Israel's two representatives in European club competitions, Betar Jerusalem and Maccabi Haifa, got off to good starts in the away legs of their preliminary round ties.

In the Champions Cup, Betar held Moldovan champions Zimbrul Kishiniev 1-1, with last season's Footballer of the Year, Ronen Harazi, scoring for Betar.

Haifa went one better, defeating Luxembourg's Dudelange 1-0 in the Cup-winners Cup. New signing Alon Mizrahi headed the winner.

Unless there are any surprises in the return legs, Betar are set to meet Lech Poznan and Haifa will play Torpedo Moscow in the first round proper.

With UEFA Cup places available from 1994-95, the domestic season is set to be particularly hard fought, and with the 14 National League teams playing three rounds totalling 39 games, stamina will be as crucial as skill.

The three favourites are Betar Jersualem, Maccabi Haifa and Maccabi Tel Aviv, with Hapoel Tel Aviv and Bnei Yehuda outside bets.

IFA chairman Haim Haberfield is to give way soon to Azrikan Milchen.

One of the newcomer's first tasks will be to sort out the issue of national team coach.

Shlomo Scharf is unlikely to be asked to continue after the World Cup qualifiers end in November.

MARK RIVLIN

REP of IRELAND....

All lit up at last

THIS will be a bright season for domestic and international football in the Republic of Ireland.

Floodlights are being installed at Lansdowne Road and by Christmas all Premier Division clubs should have lights.

No special event has been arranged for the official switch-on at Lansdowne, where the installation has been funded jointly by the FAI and the Irish RFU. The first game under lights will be an All-Ireland League Rugby game between Wanderers and Blackrock College on December 1.

Drogheda United look likely to win the race to be the first League club to benefit directly from the compensation paid to the FAI by BSkyB for live transmission of English Premiership games.

Drogheda also will stage the Under-21 match against Spain on October 12, and this could be the last game at this level for some time. Participation in the European Under-21 Championship is expensive and national manager Jack Charlton (above) favours "B" internationals to assess new players.

With an eye to the World Cup, the Republic have lined up two friendlies for next year. Norway will visit Lansdowne Road on March 23 and the Irish will travel to play Germany on May 29.

There was a nice hands-across-the-border touch from FAI Cup-winners Shelbourne and Linfield, the Irish League champions. The clubs shared a chartered jet for their European preliminary round games, against Karpaty Lvov and Dynamo Tbilisi respectively.

SEAN CREEDON

HUNGARY.....

Detari comes home

THE transfer to dominate all others in Hungary during the summer was Lajos Detari's to Ferencvaros.

Detari (above), the best foreign earner since his move to Eintracht Frankfurt in 1985, thence to Olympiakos, Bologna and on loan to Ancona, was unable to find a new club when Ancona were relegated. He missed Hungary's final international last season partly for this reason.

Finally, FIFA intervened sympathetically and gave him temporary release to return home, where Ferencvaros have the means to keep him satisfied financially.

Whether they also will provide him with new challenges remains to be seen. But he starred in the opening-day 5-1 win over BVSC, whose new manager is Dr. Gyorgy Mezey, also back home again.

If this sounds like pilgrims returning to Mecca, particularly with the presence of Istvan Kozma at his former club, Ujpest, after 18 unfulfilled months at Liverpool, the reality is quite sobering.

No club is swimming in cash but Ujpest were all at sea in their first match, losing 2-0 away to Sopron in the latter's first Division One encounter.

This inexperienced team exhibited surprising cohesion and embarrassed their big-city visitors.

Meanwhile, 20,000 were at the Nepstadion, which unlike BVSC's ground can accomodate the Ferencvaros supporters, and the Cup-winners made a rousing recovery after conceding a 25th-minute goal.

Martti Kuusela's Kispest team, more attractive, creating several clear chances, suggested their powers of recovery are increasing by going down to Pecs, and coming away with a 4-1 win.

Failure to agree on the share-out of television profits from the Super Cup, between Kispest and Ferencvaros, forced the match to be postponed by a week when Ferencvaros beat Kispest, again before 20,000, winning 2-1WS OCT/ with goals from Jozsef Gregor (20) and Tamas Szekeres (38) before Istvan Salloi converted a penalty six minutes from time.

BRIAN O'SULLIVAN

HOLLAND.....

GAMBLERS will always try their luck. But the majority of people involved with soccer would not tell you which team was going to the champions at this early stage of the season.

I have no bet. But I reckon Ajax are not only on the way back, but will be Dutch champions next May.

This is not intended as a knock at their two greatest rivals, Feyenoord and PSV.

I believe Aad de Mos will do a great job for PSV. He is the right man to run the football side of the club without any interference from bureaucratic "insiders".

He has not stormed into the transfer market since Romario and Gerald Vanenburg disappeared. But he has quietly brought in Nii Lamptey from Anderlecht, on loan for one season.

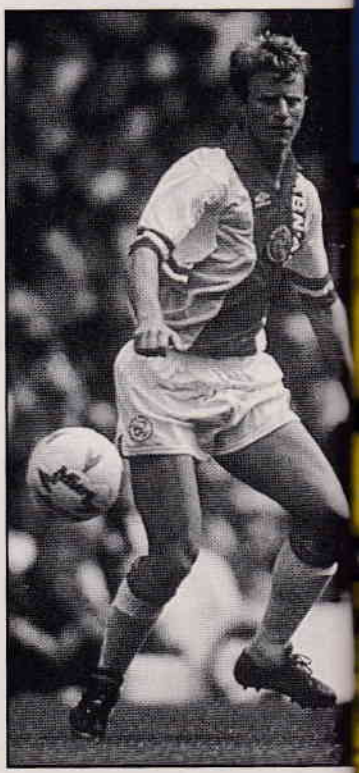
Neither can I knock the football trio who run Feyenoord . . . Wim Jansen (technical manager) and coaches Wim van Hanegem and Geert Meyer.

When the Swedish season ends in November, they will get Swedish youth international striker Henryk Larsson from Helsingborg. He is 21 and quite a player.

These are soccer facts. But I don't think De Mos can do it all in one season for PSV. Neither can the Feyenoord trio achieve the success they would like in one season. It all takes time and the clock can be the decider in professional soccer.

So let's get back to Ajax. It can be said that Louis Van Gaal, the manager of Ajax, has not so many friends in the game. But he is learning. That is for sure.

When he took over two years ago as manager, it was suggested that he wanted the "old boys" out. In fact one of his earliest deals was the sale of



Experienced . . . Ajax's Sweden striker Stefan Pettersson is now 30 years old.

Ajax benefit from Frank exchange

Jan Wouters to Bayern Munich. Many people thought he wanted people like Wouters out because he knew more about the game than he (an ex-teacher) knew.

Now Van Gaal has done the complete reverse. Frank Rijkaard (above) has returned from Milan and it is all happening on the field.

Rijkaard (31), defender Danny Blind (32) and Swedish international striker Stefan Pettersson (30) are all there to help youngsters like Edgar Davids, Jari Litmanen, from Finland, Clarence Seedorf, George Finidi, from Nigeria, plus, of course, Marc Overmars. So, we go on.

Van Gaal says that he has too much talent in Amsterdam. How is that possible?

He's got the right mixture, the right blend, and that for me means Ajax are the next Dutch champions.

Two strange stories about strikers who have had experience of the UK. Hans Gillhaus, who walked out on Aberdeen, is hitting it off with Vitesse. The 29-year-old striker is not only playing well, he is scoring goals.

Hennie Meijer has spent his summer on a tour that might make the Dutch believe there was a new Tour de France. Without a bike he went to Yomiuri in Japan, was told to get lost after a short period, and now has been told the same by Sheffield United. He is now back in training with FC Groningen where he made his name as a scoring striker.

Maybe bad news for England. But, certainly good news for Milan and Holland.

Marco Van Basten has been playing it cool since his ankle operation by Belgian specialist Marc Martens.

But the verdict from his surgeon is that it is possible he will be fit enough to play again some time in October.

Van Basten has been clever enough to remember the serious injuries of others, including his ex-Milan team-mate Ruud Gullit, and time must take its time.

ERIC NICHOLLS

RUSSIA.....

Top-shot Vladimir is on his way

GOOD NEWS for Werder Bremen fans! Vladimir Bestchastnykh, scorer of 14 goals and top marksman in the Russian League, will join Werder next July.

Moscow Spartak's Bestchastnykh (above), only 19, seems sure to stay on top for a while. His main rival, Gocha Gogrichiani of Sochi Zhemchuzhina, stopped at 13 and has now gone to Nicosia in Cyprus.

While younger stars of the Russian League are doing everything they can to make their way out of the country, old-timers seem to have started a general comeback.

Moscow Spartak's fans gave a strong welcome to their old love Sergei Rodionov, former Soviet Union national striker, who had been in France, with Red Star, since 1990.

The lavishly financed autoworks team Kamaz, from the city of Brezhnev, now called Naberezhnye Chelny, were unexpectedly joined by two Ukrainian stars of the eighties — Akhrik Tsveiba and Ivan Yaremchuk. Both had played for Kiev Dynamo and the Soviet Union.

Another good offer made former Soviet international Sergei Andreev return from Sweden to Rostov, where he signed a contract with Rostselmash.

While players are at last getting fairly good money in the Russian League, the underpaid referees filed their complaint to the National Football Union and managed to get a raise. They are now granted 30,000 roubles per game, which is more than half the average monthly salary in this country.

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UKRAINE

Dynamo facing bankruptcy

KIEV DYNAMO, one of Europe's most famous clubs, went into the new season on the verge of bankruptcy.

Although they did the League and Cup double last season, Kiev (above) are reported to owe around £1.45 million.

The players were paid less money than they were contracted to receive, and only half a promised bonus. And when they reported for pre-season training they found that there were no jerseys or boots for them to wear.

There are two main reasons for the sensational decline of the club, so often a dominant force in the old Soviet Union.

One is that attendances in the Ukrainian League, set up on the dissolution of the old Soviet Union, are pitifully small because of the lack of top-class opposition. The other is the loss of some £8.5 million in transfer fees received for players over the years.

In all, 16 were sold, including Alexei Mikhailichenko, Oleg Protasov and Alexander Zavarov. As is so often the case in Eastern Europe, fees simply disappeared into thin air.

When the Dynamo president, Victor Bezverhiy, was asked what had happened to the money, he did not answer.

Players and staff protested and the result was a reorganisation bringing in extra funding through a joint stock company, with the soccer club concluding a credit agreement with the Bank of Ukraine.

This enables the club — 13 times champions of the Soviet Union, twice holders of the Cup-Winners' Cup — to remain in business, but the price is high.

The bank's advance of £1 million credit is secured by mortgages on the club's two training grounds, cars and the team bus, and repayments can be made only in foreign currency.

The future remains shrouded in doubt, for Dynamo must sell players to bring in hard cash, and very few of the current squad are known in the West.

Despite the many problems, however, Dynamo are among the favourites for the Ukranian title, along with Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk and Shakhtyor Donetsk.

They began their effort to retain the championship by beating Karpaty Lvov 2-1, with the winning goal being provided by Topchiev, a former Karpaty player.

The Federation narrowly avoided a major revolution after a stormy meeting of the executive committee.

The decision to increase the number of clubs from 12 to 18 was met with a storm of protest from managers as well as Oleg Bazilevich, coach of the Ukrainian national team.

They accused the Federation of condoning unsporting behaviour and called for the verdict to be overturned by a special meeting of the Executive Comittee.

"Next year we will begin preparing to qualify for the 1996 European Championship, but this wil not be possible now that we have an 18-team league," stormed Bazilevich.

"We have been batrayed by the amateur officials of the UFF."

Yet when the Executive Commitee finally met on August 5, seven of the 12 rebel clubs defected to the other side, leaving the vote to be passed by a 13-5 majority.

OLEG ZADERNOVSKY

BULGARIA

Plovdiv splash out

DURING the summer break there was exceptional transfer activity in Bulgaria with the Plovdiv clubs to the fore.

Botev signed Donkov (Levski), Draganov (CSKA) and Donev and Stoyanov (Lok. Sofia) while Marinov (Slavia) and Vassev (Lok. Sofia) have joined Lokomotiv.

The latter also have signed four Serbs — Budminovic, Milutinovic, Radivorovic and Vukovic. Only time will tell whether so many are all worth a first-team place.

The "foreign player" limit is surprisingly high, five per club, and between 50 and 60 non-Bulgarians are now in the first two national divisions.

This means the makings of a different season, but cannot mask the financial problems overall, and the danger of interest slipping if the clubs in Europe fare badly.

A whitewash seems unlikely, but only CSKA, who face Albpetrol of Albania, look to have a good chance of making the second round.

There probably is worse to come on the World Cup front unless Sweden and Austria can be decisively beaten in Sofia and a draw squeezed out in the last Group Six qualifying tie in France.

There is all to play for but not much margin of error for the Bulgarian representatives in the European and World Cups.

The championship race began with Botev taking four points from Sofia rivals Lok and CSKA, 1-0 away and 2-1 at home.

The second win went some way towards avenging the Cup final defeat a couple of months earlier and justifying the expense in the transfer market.

Stefan Draganov (above) scored the winner against his former CSKA colleagues ten minutes from the end, watched by 35,000.

BOB VAUGHAN

LATVIA

LATVIA have won the three-nation Baltic Cup for the sixth time in the tournament's 65-year history.

They defeated traditional rivals Estonia 2-0 and drew with favourites Lithuania before a crowd of just 150 in the Estonian town of Piarnu.

Estonia finished runners-up, beating a Lithuanian side without foreign-based stars Valdas Ivanauskas, Arminas Narbekovas and Robertas Fridrikas.

"This has been vital preparation for our final World Cup qualifier against Northern Ireland on September 8," said Latvian team manager Ianis Gilis.

Meanwhile, reigning champions Skonto Riga lead the table with maximum points from eight games.

BALTIC CUP — 1993
Final Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Latvia	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Estonia	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Lithuania	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

VLADIMIR KALINKOVICH

ARMENIA

PART ONE of the Armenian championship ended with Banants Abovyan holding a five-point lead over Van Yerevan, with a game in hand.

Banants had won 12 and lost one of their 13 games, with the remarkable scoring record of 50 for and only six against. Their victories included one by 8-0 away to Impuls Dilijan.

Barzegyan had scored 20 of the 58 goals, making him a clear leader in the individual table.

VICTOR GUSEV

ALBANIA

TWO top clubs in Albania last season made history in their preparations for the new campaign by going abroad.

The champions, Partizan Tirana, trained in Italy and played some games there, and Teuta did the same in Slovenia.

Sulejman Starova, the Partizan coach, said the programme had enabled his men to get into "very

ROMANIA.....

A one-sided look

THE CHAMPIONSHIP is not dead after one round of fixtures, but it might be difficult to convince most supporters.

The reason is that on the opening day the old army warhorses of Steaua completely crushed Dinamo 3-0 in the first big Bucharest derby.

There were 50,000 present to see two goals by Vladoiu (right) and one by Dumitrescu put the result beyond doubt and give Steaua the sort of start they were seeking.

Elsewhere goals were in short supply but "U" Craiova and Progresul Bucharest managed away wins.

On the following weekend Vladoiu and Dumitrescu were again on target, "U" and Progresul again took full points, and Farul Constanta, also kept a 100 per cent record.

The Romanian nation team badly need success in the Faroes before they tackle the Belgians in Brussels, hoping that results elsewhere run for them. Then comes what could be a clincher, in Cardiff.

BOB VAUGHAN

SLOVAKIA.....

Big task for Slovan

A SMALLER league, Scottish style, is being run by the new, independent Slovak FA.

Banika Prievidza's 3-0 win over Trnava was the only surprise on the opening day. Slovak and Czecho-Slovak Cup-winners FC Kosice could manage only a goalless draw at home to SK Zllina, then were given a hiding by Slovan, who might have put a dozen rather than six past Olejan.

This result may have said something about the unlikely outcome of the championship and the quality of the Cup-winners Cup representatives from the east of Slovakia.

Slovan also have a hard task, having drawn Aston Villa, with the prospect of a second leg in front of 40,000 in Birmingham. Despite the six goals against FC Kosice, coach Dusan Galis must be wondering where the goals will come from.

For the moment Slovan fans are enjoying rather easy domestic successes.

With Trnava, relegation candidates last season and starting poorly this time, local rivals DAC Dunajska Streda look to be Slovan's only serious rivals.

They began with a home victory over Nitra but had to wait until the 88th minute for Urge's goal.

Coach Skorpil will be looking to build on this before the UEFA Cup ties with Austria Salzburg.

BOB VAUGHAN

CZECH REPUBLIC....

Viktoria's bright start

THE new Czech-Moravian League got off to a predictable start with last season's Czecho-Slovak Champions, Sparta, putting five past hapless FC Boby Brno.

Dukla lost heavily in Zlin and the two other former "All-Nation" League representatives from Prague, Slavia and Bohemians, took full points in Plzen and at home to Olomouc respectively.

Viktoria Zizkov began with a draw at Liberec, another of the new clubs in the elite class following the historic split.

Chief coach Vladimir Taborsky says the aim is to keep up with the top sides, Sparta, Slavia, Olomouc and Ostrava.

Generally the "minor" clubs can be satisfied with their start in the 16-strong league.

Whether attendances will hold up as winter approaches is another question and figures may well be as low as 1992-93, when even Dukla had some gates with less than 1,000 present.

But for reorganisation both Dukla and Bohemians could be in Division Two.

The "Representation of the Czechs and Slovaks" chief, old fox Vaclav Jezek, assisted by Josef Adamec from Slovakia and Werner Licka from Moravia, has the difficult task of trying to guide his team to the World Cup finals.

Perhaps the Czech and Slovak maestros can produce the 1976 magic again and put on one last display in the States.

BOB VAUGHAN

POLAND.....

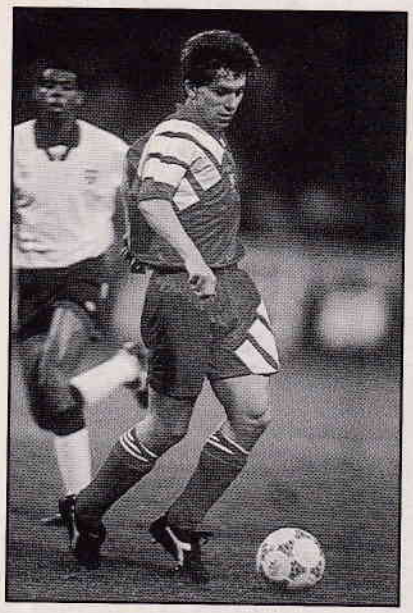
Transfers help to improve gates

THE Polish First Division is slowly recovering after being rocked by the match-fixing scandal at the end of last season.

Legia Warsaw players asked fellow professionals to boycott this season because of the decision by the Polish Football Association (PZPN) to strip them of their championship, and the subsequent move by UEFA to ban Legia and LKS Lodz from competing in Europe.

Not surprisingly, the plea was ignored, and Legia and Lodz started the season with minus three points.

The new season has been far more entertaining than last year's start, with 12 clubs within four points of co-leaders Ruch Chorzow, Pogon Szczecin and Gornik Zabrze.



The emergence of less-fancied teams also can be attributed to the massive movement of players to and from Poland and within the First Division.

Gornik signed Polish international Jerzy Brzeczek (left) and Aleksander Klak to join national team-mates Tomasz Waldoch and Rzyard Staniek, and immediately reaped the benefits.

Legia lost top scorer Macief Sliwowski to Rapid Wien but signed internationals Piotr Czachowski from Udinese and Adam Fedoruk from Stal.

Last season's champions, Lech Poznan, lost Dariusz Adamczuk to Dundee United but signed national team keeper Jaroslaw Bako from Besiktas, and striker Jaroslaw Araszkiewicz returned from Duisburg.

Some of Poland's top players naturally have moved on to more lucrative contracts elsewhere in Europe, such as Jan Furtok in Frankfurt, Roman Kosecki at Atletico Madrid, and Roman Szewczyk at Sochaux in France.

This has made national team manager Andrzej Strejlau's difficult job even more awkward. The England v Poland World Cup qualifying match at Wembley has occupied his entire summer, and he has spent considerable effort in scouting his players.

Strejlau's typical weekend could be a run to Wattenscheid to check how Lesniak is doing, followed by a quick drive to Koln to check on Kobylanski and Kubic.

JAMES WALKER

Partizan tipped to keep title

good condition" for 1993-94, in which they are strong favourites to keep their title.

The club have signed another defender, Ilir Sillo, from neighbouring Dinamo, to follow their earlier acquisition of Nordick Ruhi.

Teuta, who surprised many people with their form last season, are now sponsored by the Adria airline. Coach Edmond Miho feels that his team can maintain their progression: they were third in 1991-92, second last time.

SK Tirana, under new coach Fatmir Frasheri, cannot be ruled out, although newcomer Indrit Fortuzi — another Dinamo sale — rather surprisingly tips Partizan. Vllaznia Shkoder have an outstanding prospect in 19-year-old Gentian Cocija, and a shrewd coach in Astrit Hafizi. They too must be treated with respect.

Two clubs, Laci and Sopoti, must play their early home games on neutral grounds. The Football Federation have ruled that the security of visitors to both towns cannot be guaranteed.

GEZIM NUSHI

WORLD

THIS month's selection of newspaper and soccer magazine editorials includes pieces on Eric Cantona, college soccer in the US, Frank Rijkaard, the Dutch Super Cup, Johan Cruyff and the great British kit rip-off.

FRANCE FOOTBALL

ERIC CANTONA remains a great original. This is some of what he had to say of late to *France Football* about playing in England.

"I've never had to complain about the Press. The relationship is clear. They come to the match and write what they think. Neither better nor worse than elsewhere. And when they want an interview, they pay. If you agree to be paid, you know what to expect. It's a question of principle. It's like paying a woman to have her."

"Has that happened to you?" he was asked.

"What, paying a woman?" Roars of laughter.

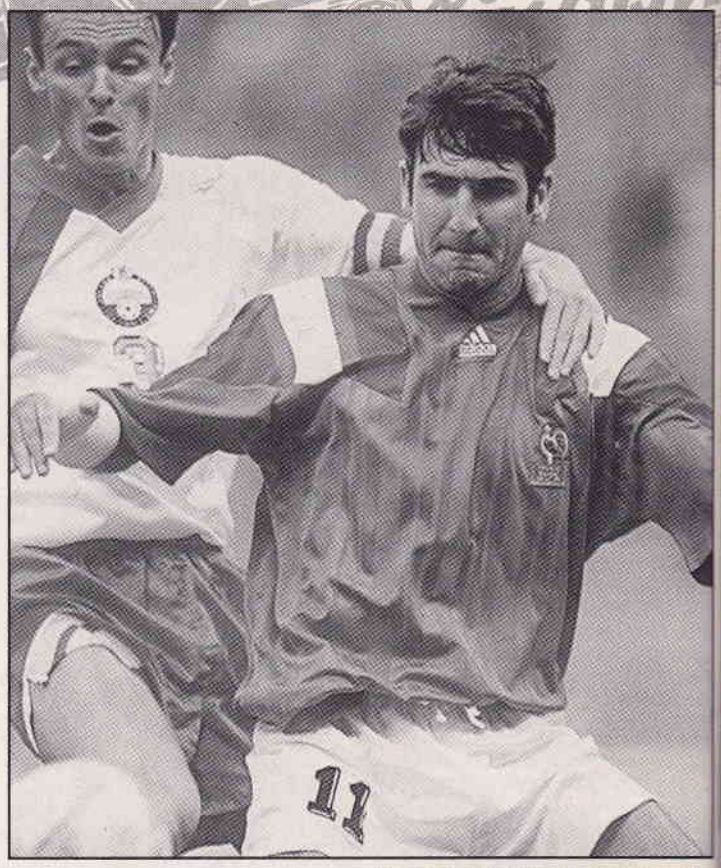
"No, asking money for giving an interview."

"Yes, I've already done it. But there is nothing shameful about it. It's the system. That's how things go here. In France, it's an exchange. Everybody has need of everyone else. Another system."

Speaking of the coming World Cup, Cantona says: "I've never been attracted by the trivial, by that whole aspect of the United States. No, what I like about it there is that you're nothing at all in that immensity. It brings things into proportion. It corresponds more with our reality.

"Above all, we who are 'stars,' and don't forget the inverted commas, we live in the unreal, in the dream. And all that is artificial. By comparison with life, even if you're more or less well known, you are profoundly nothing much.

"We live in the unreal, in the dream. Well then, let's go and see the reality."



Looking for reality . . . Eric Cantona.

THE GUARDIAN

WITH all these names and numbers on the backs of shirts, plus the sponsors' logos and club badges and kit-makers's emblems on the front, it may soon be impossible to see what colour the actual shirt is, other than the colour of money.

— Martin Thorpe in The Guardian, commenting on what is surely the most cynical soccer rip-off in the long and lengthening list.

Looking for money . . . new kits dominate in the FA Premiership.

SPORT, BARCELONA

AT THIS stage, questioning the Barcelona manager is something nobody would dream of doing. Only envy or stupidity would speak against the person who has taken Barca to an historical zenith.

After five years on the bench his collection of trophies is something the Catalans have never seen.

Cruyff as a manager beats Cruyff the player hands down. The difference is simply crushing. In short he won one league. As Superboss he has taken the trophy three times to the Paca de Sant Jaume and has brought the Champions Cup straight from Wembley to Catalonia. They may not sanctify him but our children will surely live to see a Barcelona street named after him.

The secret of Cruyff's success is his clinical eye in the transfer market. He has a special sensitivity and a unique nose for talent. He is not dazzled by names. He is well aware that he is the star and the rest must orbit around him like satellites. He would never sign a superstar like Maradona.

Of course, he is human and he errs, although he is publicly reluctant to admit it. His detractors throw in his face the signings of Witschge and Pablo, who have never shown signs of fitting into his team. But these slip-ups have to be forgiven amid the avalanche of good signings made at rock-bottom prices.

Looking for bargains . . . Johan Cruyff.

Laudrup is a case in point. He had bee[illegible] by Juventus and h[illegible] the best four ye[illegible]s of his c[illegible]. He cost tuppence and has [illegible]ed like a millionaire.

Guardiola is a[illegible]er Cruyff product. He prefers to develop players rather than pay gold dust for players who have already reached the top, done everything and only look at their bank balance.

He makes cheap signings and wrings the best out of them. When a manager wins three league titles on the trot, it is not by accident.

— Josep Maria Casanovas

PRESS

DE TELEGRAAF (Holland)

Looking rather empty . . . the Feyenoord Stadium in Rotterdam.

BRAM PEPER, the mayor of Rotterdam, is again the central figure in a soccer row. Only 28,000 watched the Dutch Super Cup (the equivalent of the English Charity Shield) in the Feyenoord Stadium where Ajax won 4-0.

Ajax says: "The fact that the tickets for this game were not sold out is down to pure mismanagement. The people wanted to come, but could not. Football is for the public, so you have got to let them in."

Last year the Dutch FA agreed to a proposal from Rotterdam City Council restricting entry to people bearing a train card (which can be normal in Holland). For the locals (Feyenoord), only those with a season ticket could be allowed in.

There were so few tickets sold that only the distribution of 13,000 by Dutch Telecom, the sponsors, brought the total up to 28,000.

The Dutch FA had tried to get a three-year contract with Rotterdam for the staging of the Super Cup, but blame the City Council for blocking the contract unless all their wishes were met.

The Dutch FA now have a new committee for professional football, and pressure on them to talk again with Rotterdam City Council — and mayor Peper — to get something sorted out in time for next summer's Super Cup. Otherwise the Dutch Super Cup might well be transferred from Holland's biggest stadium to the Olympic Stadium in Amsterdam.

GAZZETTA DELLO SPORT

IN a soccer world where the expression "choice of lifestyle" often hides an eight or nine digit signing-on fee, we take our hat off to Frank Rijkaard.

The Dutchman, whose personality and performances were not always thoroughly appreciated [in Italy], said farewell to Milan and to Italian soccer [he has signed for Ajax Amsterdam] in a manner that revealed him a person of dignity in a world populated by "big, little men".

Perhaps that slightly sad smile he always seemed to have can now better be interpreted as the ill-at-ease feeling of someone who did not fully identify with the value structures all around him. Ill at ease, that is, until the day when, having fully honoured his contract, he said "enough" and said so without slamming the door in anyone's face and without badmouthing his former employers.

Goodbye and thank you, said with elegance and without ambiguity, just as he plays on the field.

This year, we see the first [Italian] championship in five years that begins without Rijkaard.

Who knows how badly Milan will miss him.

What is certain is that he will be missed by all those who, regardless of their club affiliations, appreciate players who carry out their professional duties brilliantly but without fuss.

For that reason, Rijkaard is a runaway winner of the European Footballer of the Year for Professional Seriousness.

SOCCER AMERICA

THE most important event in the domestic US soccer scene takes place in Davidson, North Carolina, a town of 4,000 people whose welcome pamphlets encourage you to see its world-famous gnome sculptures. It is the NCAA Division One final four and more than 20,000 will attend the three games in December.

The college game has its faults. Its regular season is barely 10 weeks long and it tinkers with the rules. But unlike the alphabet soup of semi-professional League, college soccer offers something that is lacking in every other aspect of American soccer: consistency.

The college season comes every fall and ends with the championship in December. We know there will be a season next year, and for years to come. Can that be said about the APSL, CISL, NPSL or USISL?

Last year Virginia swept into Davidson with an attacking, creative team of diverse players, and it won the national title in a full stadium. Never has a team of American players won the national title with such style.

With the 1994 World Cup on the horizon, we are innundated with speculation about soccer's future in the US. Amid this, we should not overlook the importance of the college game.

Last year's final four was a milestone. Come next December, it will be worthwhile for those who are interested in soccer to look to the little town with the gnomes. That's where you see what's happening in domestic soccer.

Looking for an identity . . . Frank Rijkaard, now with Ajax.

WILKINS -the foreign factor

RAY WILKINS has seen it all and done most of it in a career spanning 19 seasons, six clubs, four countries and close on 800 senior appearances.

Since making his debut for Chelsea in 1974, he has watched a world of change in the game he has served so well.

Not all of those changes have been for the better, but former England captain Wilkins, coming up to his 37th birthday, is firmly convinced that the British game is on the march again after far too long in the doldrums.

He reckons that much of the revival is down to former team-mates such as Glenn Hoddle, Kevin Keegan, Trevor Francis and Graeme Souness.

They are among the enlightened few who have played continental football, made a success of it and come home to spread the gospel among the English clubs.

Francis persuaded Wilkins to sign for QPR four years ago, but by the time he arrived Francis had been given the bullet, after apparently sparking a players' revolution.

His crime was seeking to revolutionise the QPR dressing-room by introducing the same rigid training and disciplinary codes he had encountered as a player in Italy, with Sampdoria and Atalanta.

But Wilkins believes British players are now much more receptive to new ideas, and claims: "Everyone is slightly afraid of change, but our players are no more conservative than those of any other nation. Trevor's downfall was trying to change too much too soon. If you look around now you'll see a lot of the things he was trying to introduce have gradually been adopted by a number of clubs.

"A lot more coaches are taking an interest in things such as diet, the way we train and measuring body fat ratios. And the players are a lot more responsive now that they're feeling the benefit of those innovations.

"When I move into coaching I'll definitely introduce some of the things which I learned abroad, particularly the way in which players conduct themselves.

"You never hear of Italian players getting involved in nightclub incidents or being convicted of drunk-driving. Players over there simply don't drink and they frown on anyone who does.

"When you play in Italy you belong completely to the club. They want to know where you are, what you're doing, and they control your diet.

"You have lunch together every day, and that's very pleasant. You have a terrific, nutritious meal which brings the whole team together in pleasant circumstances.

"Footballers in Europe are ultra-professional, more so than in this country. But our game is definitely starting to look to Europe for ways to improve."

There is still a long way to go, however, before continental preparations are adopted by English clubs.

"The technique of the European footballer is a lot higher than ours because they work so much harder on it," says Wilkins.

"Everything they do is geared towards using a ball and improving your first touch. When I was with Milan we'd spend half an hour every morning just juggling a ball, controlling it with different parts of the body.

"When you've been doing that since the age of 11, as they have over there, you're bound to feel comfortable.

"I haven't noticed too much of that in Britain, though managers like Glenn, Trevor, Ossie Ardiles and my QPR boss Gerry Francis should change that. It's noticeable that the top six teams in the Premier League last season were all 'football' sides. Long may that continue."

Wilkins spent three years abroad, with Milan and, briefly, Paris St. Germain and reckons the British game grew a lot more physical and aggressive during his absence.

"You need to be extremely fit to survive here, but I was lucky to learn my trade in an era when the game was still football-based rather than energy-based, so all I have to do now is keep myself in tip-top condition.

"The hard-working trend is still continuing, but at least clubs are now working a lot harder at retaining possession. We're finally starting to

In Italy . . . Wilkins of Milan tackled by Miano of Udinese.

PRO-FILE

RAY WILKINS
QPR

Born: Hillingdon, Middlesex. 14.9.56.

Turned professional: 1.10.73.

Club career:
Chelsea (Oct 73 — Aug 79) 197 games, 34 goals.
Manchester Utd (Aug 79 — July 84) 194 games, 10 goals.
Milan (July 84 — July 87) 79 games, 2 goals.
Paris St Germain (July 87 — Nov 87) 13 games, 0 goals.
Rangers (Nov. 87 — Nov. 89) 96 games, 3 goals.
QPR (Nov. 89 — Sep 93) 139 games, 9 goals.

International career:
England Under-21s: 1 cap, 0 goals.
England Under-23s: 2 caps, 0 goals.
England: 84 caps, 3 goals.

HONOURS

FA Cup: 1983.

Scottish Premier League: 1990.

'Those Continental touches are so vital to our soccer'

realise that you can waste so much energy on trying to regain the ball after losing it unnecessarily. That is the thing Italians dislike most about our game. They cannot accept the fact that we give the ball away so much.

"But it's a fallacy to suggest that we are fitter than players on the continent. It's just the way our game is played which makes us seem that way.

"We trained just as hard in Italy and excessively hard in France. When I was with Paris we'd play a game on Saturday night and at 10.30 the following morning we'd have a four-mile run no matter how far or how long we'd travelled to get home."

Wilkins, however, dismisses suggestions that the Europeans sneer at British football and reveals: "There's certain things we do which they like and our work rate is one of them.

"The Italians, for instance, have closely studied our game and gradually worked all the best aspects of it into their own play.

"When I was with Milan I always felt we didn't work hard enough during the game. I'm not the greatest worker in the world but I do my share, and I found the players weren't too interested in supporting me when I was trying to regain possession.

"But all that has now changed. It started with Fabio Capello, who was a real stickler for getting his players to close opponents down. Watch Milan now and you'll see there's nobody better in the world at shutting opponents down."

Yet Wilkins would not bank on Milan winning the FA Carling Premiership were they to spend a season in English football.

"They would handle a team like Wimbledon with no problems in the San Siro, but I'm not sure how they'd cope with them over here, in a tight ground where the crowd are right on top of you and referees' interpretations of the rules are so different.

"If a foot is raised above the ball in Italy, it's automatically a foul. They couldn't accept some of the challenges that go on in our game, even though there is no malicious intent but just the sheer enthusiasm of our lads.

"That's one thing which is often better in England than in Italy — the atmosphere. Italian crowds are so far away from the pitch there isn't the same intensity, despite the fact that they attract crowds twice the size.

"As a result of the Taylor Report, many grounds in this country are now absolutely marvellous, second to none. That's another example of the European influence being put to good use by the British game."

Now Wilkins will be closely monitoring the progress of his good friend Glenn Hoddle, probably the most pro-European footballer in the country.

"Glenn has been greatly influenced by his time in France, and will be looking to impose his ideas on the way Chelsea go about their business. It won't happen overnight, but it will definitely happen.

"You have to be a very strong character to go into a new club and change things around, because you're obviously going to meet a certain amount of opposition from players who preferred things the way they used to be.

"Glenn proved as a player that he has that strength of character, imposing his influence on the game without ever compromising his principles. And I'm confident he'll take Chelsea by the scruff of the neck and really run the show."

Sadly, it seems that there are few Europhobes likely to follow Hoddle into British management in the near future. For Wilkins is among a dying breed of League player who has made a success of his time on the continent.

"Yes, the interest in British players has died slightly," he admits. "They've had a couple of unfortunate experiences with our players and so they're a bit wary of signing any more.

"Maybe it's a good thing that they're not snapping up all our best players. There are some terrific youngsters in the Premiership at the moment and it would be nice to think we'll have the chance to enjoy their talents for a few more years before they're whisked away.

"It's lovely that the managers like Glenn, Trevor and my own boss at QPR are having success and are now being tipped as possible England managers of the future.

"It's essential we have a strong national team and with any of those guys in charge we'd have a very bright international future.

MARK IRWIN

In London . . . Glenn Hoddle leads the Chelsea players during training.

In Birmingham . . . Wilkins in action for QPR against Houghton of Aston Villa.

SO MANY TV TREATS

THE cynicism for which Italian football was infamous has disappeared from the modern game. "They attempted to put their game at the top of the pile and having won the Champions' Cup twice in the last three years they now regard themselves as the major flag-bearers for European football," says Ray Wilkins.

"They don't want anything to upset that reputation and have worked very hard at improving the image of their game.

"I'm sure British viewers who watched the Serie A on Channel 4 last season were pleasantly surprised by the attacking play they say. Everyone was predicting tedious, goalless draws, but instead we saw some fantastic goals and an immense amount of quality."

Leaders of the pack

These are the men putting their overseas experience into British football management:

OSSIE ARDILES
Current job: manager, Tottenham Hotspur
Foreign clubs played for: Huracan (Argentina), Paris SG

RON ATKINSON
Current job: manager, Aston Villa
Foreign club coached: Atletico Madrid

LIAM BRADY
Current job: manager, Celtic
Foreign clubs played for: Juventus, Internazionale, Genoa, Ascoli

DANNY BERGARA
Current job: manager, Stockport County
Foreign clubs played for: RC Montevideo, Mallorca, Sevilla, Tenerife

TREVOR FRANCIS
Current job: manager, Sheffield Wednesday
Foreign clubs played for: Sampdoria, Atalanta

GLENN HODDLE
Current job: manager, Chelsea
Foreign club played for: Monaco

JOE JORDAN
Current job: assistant manager, Celtic
Foreign clubs played for: Internazionale, Torino

KEVIN KEEGAN
Current job: manager, Newcastle
Foreign club played for: Hamburg

HOWARD KENDALL
Current job: manager, Everton
Foreign club coached: Athletic Bilbao

GRAEME SOUNESS
Current job: manager, Liverpool
Foreign club played for: Sampdoria

From Crewe to eternity

All in a day's work for David Platt

EIGHT years ago, in February 1985, David Platt was given a free transfer . . . from Manchester United to Crewe Alexandra, then in the Fourth Division.

It seemed, at the time, just another young player's career finished before it had begun in earnest. But it was the beginning of a career that would take Platt from Crewe into the First Division, with Aston Villa, into the England team, into Italian football with Bari, Juventus and now Sampdoria, and into the record books as the most expensive player ever.

When Sampdoria paid £5.2million for Platt this summer, his total carrer moves totalled a staggering £17.4million. Yet despite all the fame and fortune stuff, Platt remains a modest, dedicated pro. His lifestyle bears all the trappings of a soccer superstar — the villa, the designer clothes and the endorsements — yet he remains the same David Platt who was born and bred in Lancashire.

David Platt was born in Chadderton, Greater Manchester on June 10, 1966. As a boy, he always wanted to be a footballer and dreamed of playing for Manchester United. He joined his local youth side, Chadderton Boys, and, in July 1984, embarked on a professional career as a YTS apprentice with United.

But Platt never made the grade at Old Trafford and was released when then manager, Ron Atkinson, decided to trim the playing staff. Platt's confidence was shattered, but he was persuaded to resume his career in the Fourth Division with Crewe.

He made 152 appearances for Crewe, scoring 61 goals. His goals and work-rate attracted Graham Taylor, then in charge of Aston Villa, and a £200,000 fee took Platt to Villa Park in February 1988.

Under Taylor's guiding hand, Platt flourished as a hard-working attacking midfielder with an eye for a chance and a habit of being in the right place at the right time. Recognition of his ability was confirmed in November 1989 when Platt made his England debut as a substitute in the 0-0 draw with Italy at Wembley.

Having established himself in England's midfield, Platt travelled to Italy for the 1990 World Cup finals, and a month which was to change his life.

His big moment came in the second round match against Belgium in Bologna. With the game inching towards a penalty shoot-out, Platt connected with a Paul Gascoigne free-kick and, in one movement, swivelled and hooked an unstoppable volley past Michel Preud'homme.

The goal put England through to the quarter-finals, and Platt had, quite definitely, arrived.

The following November, Platt was voted PFA Player of the Year after a magnificent season for Aston Villa — 19 goals in 35 games — before heading back to Italy as part of Vincenzo Matarrese's grand plan to turn Bari into a major power in Italian football.

It was a huge gamble. Bari had just been promoted to Serie A and had an inexperienced team. But, persuaded by Matarrese's vision of a southern club capable of matching the industry-backed powers from the north, and despite offers from more successful clubs including Marseille, Platt signed in a £5.5million deal making him Britain's most expensive player.

He was hailed as the Great White Hope in Bari and was determined to make the most of his opportunity. Learning from the mistakes of failed British exports Luther Blisset and Ian Rush, he made a conscious effort to learn the language and immerse himself in the Italian lifestyle.

"I'm going to make friends here," Platt said at the time. "I like the food, the weather and the clothes. Be it three or eight years, I wouldn't want to go back without saying I'd done more than just the football."

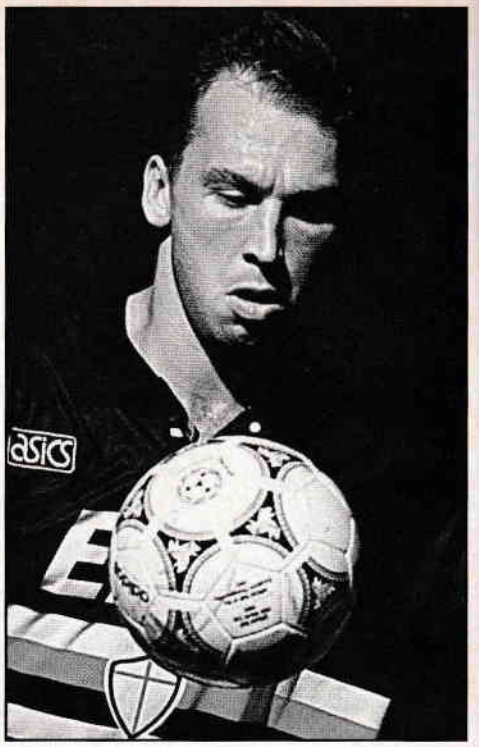
The 1991-92 season was a personal triumph for Platt, but a collective disaster for Matarrese, his team and his dream. Despite an impressive tally of 12 goals in 28 games from midfield, Platt could not prevent his inexperienced team sliding back into Serie B at the first attempt, thus triggering the "escape clause" in his contract which allowed him to leave.

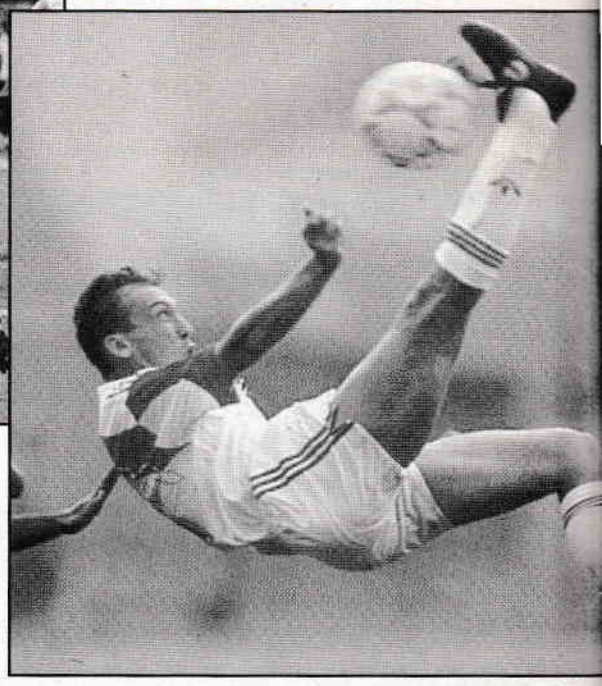
"I had a choice of Italian clubs to move to, but I chose Juventus because they were a team I had followed as a youngster," Platt explained.

"Everything about the club has style. Juventus want a certain kind of player. It's not just what you do on the pitch; you have got to be the right sort for them."

Which Platt clearly was. Talented, professional and mature, he possessed all that the "Grand Old Lady" of Italian football could want in a player. It was no surprise then, when Platt moved north to Turin in another record move, this time for £6.5million.

But his first season at Juventus started in frustration as he was left out of the side for the opening matches, a victim of the current Italian trend for over-stocking foreign players.





Juve's coach, Giovanni Trapattoni, preferred Brazilian centre-back Julio Cesar as his third foreign player, alongside the Germans Kohler and Moller.

An injury to Julio Cesar gave Plat his chance to impress, and he took full advantage by scoring Juve's equaliser in a 2-2 draw with Genoa.

"That was a great moment for me and, although I have never felt I had a point to prove to anyone, the goal did show what I'm capable of," said Platt afterwards, his words expressing a greater sense of relief than intended.

Then, in November, a cartilage operation kept him out for three months at a time when he could have expected to play every game. He returned to competitive action in February 1992 and was given a huge boost when his old mentor, Graham Taylor, named his as England captain for the World Cup qualifier against San Marino. Platt responded with an outstanding display and four goals in England's 6-0 victory.

And yet, despite such a performance, Platt was

not completely at ease with himself. In the last minute he had missed a penalty, and the chance to join an elite band of players to score five in an international.

"That was the only disappointing aspect of a magnificent day and, despite my achievement, I did feel deflated by the penalty miss afterwards."

Typical Platt. Always striving for perfection when most would shrug off the penalty miss and bask in the reflected glory of a four-goal display at Wembley. But then Platt is no ordinary footballer.

His frustration at club level continued though, as Trapattoni continued to juggle his side. Most discouraging of all was being dropped form the side for the latter stages of the UEFA Cup, which Juventus won in a one-sided final against Borussia Dortmund.

For England though, Platt was still a vital component. Goals against Brazil and Germany in the US Cup '93 took his total to 20 in 47 appearances and, of the current squad, he is by far the highest goalscorer, and all from a midfield position.

Platt still had two years of his Juventus contract to run and was quite prepared to stay and see it through — even though he was unhappy at being employed in a defensive midfield role most of the time.

So, after lengthy negotiations with president Giovanni Boniperti, Juventus decided, perhaps out of mercy and the recognition that a fine talent was being wasted, to release Platt.

A host of clubs, including Monaco, Borussia Dortmund, Lazio and Parma were desperate to sign him, and there were even rumours of a return to England with ambitious Blackburn Rovers.

But Platt was determined to stay in Italy and prove he could be successful. "A return to England at this stage wasn't really a consideration because I would have gone back as 'just another player' to have tried his luck in Italy. I still have a bit to prove."

Then Sampdoria stepped in with a bid, and Platt jumped at the chance. "In the end it was the decision I wanted," he explained.

"Sampdoria have given me a chance to play the way I play for England. When president Paolo Mantovani was asked by the Italian press where he wanted me to play, he replied . . . EVERYWHERE!

"To say that I'm delighted is an understatement. Sampdoria have offered me a wonderful opportunity to play alongside such great names as Roberto Mancini, Attilio Lombardo and Ruud Gullit.

"Mr Mantovani has made a major investment in me and I want to show my appreciation by my performances for his club over the next two years."

Platt, true to his word, started justifying the investment immediately with a headed goal on his Samp debut, continuing a happy knack of scoring in his Italian debuts.

Ruud Gullit, Sampdoria's other major summer signing, created Platt's goal and scored the second in an opening-day 2-1 win over Napoli . . . do not be surprised to see both their names on the scoresheet regularly as Sampdoria regroup after a disastrous season last time round.

Of Juventus, and the frustrating season just ended, Platt has only praise and thanks where many a pampered star would have bitter barbs.

"I would like to record my appreciation to Juventus for the caring way they have handled this transfer.

"I have never looked back with regret about anything I have done in my career. I see it all as part of my apprenticeship for the job I am about to start now."

It is Platt's realisation that he is, after all, merely doing a job, albeit very well-paid, which allows him to accept life's ups and downs as being part of a learning experience; knowledge which will serve him.

To Platt, the highs and lows of life as the world's most expensive footballer are all in a day's work.

JOHN KELLY

PRO-FILE

DAVID PLATT

SAMPDORIA AND ENGLAND

Born: June 10, 1966 in Chadderton, Lancashire.

Previous clubs: Manchester United (no appearances), Crewe Alexandra (152 apps — 61 goals), Aston Villa (12-50), Bari (28-12), Juventus (17-3)

League debut: January 26, 1985 for Crewe v Mansfield. Drew 1-1

International debut: November 15, 1989 v Italy. Drew 0-0.

International caps: 42 (20 goals)

HONOURS

UEFA Cup: 1993 (with Juventus).
PFA Player of the Year: 1990.

UK NEWS

United storm on as City suffer

FOR more than a century now, Manchester has been a divided city. Divided by its two illustrious teams — United and City.

But the divide never has been as pronounced as it is now. Simply, United are rampant while City are ragged.

While City are enduring a trophy famine, envious eyes look across the city to Old Trafford, where United are still feasting on the fatted calf of a first League Championship in 26 years.

For as long as the League title eluded United, City's fans could content themselves with the thought that their club were the last from Manchester to win the League, back in 1968 — the year United won the Champions Cup.

United's Cup successes since were barely tolerable, but the title triumph last season brought into sharp focus the widening gulf between the two clubs . . . and placed huge pressure on City's manager, Peter Reid.

Three defeats in City's opening four games set in motion a chain of events at Maine Road which, ultimately, led to Reid's dismissal.

The target of the supporters' anger was chairman Peter Swales, a man who has had more than his fair share of abuse during 20 years at the club.

During the summer relations between Swales and his manager deteriorated as Reid spent a frustrating few months vainly trying to bolster the squad with fresh signings. The situation reached rock-bottom when Reid agreed a £1.5million fee with Liverpool for Paul Stewart, only for the board of directors to block the deal.

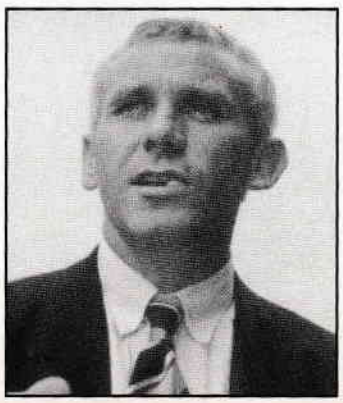
Swales' answer to the unrest was to bring in John Maddock, a former journalist, as general manager, ostensibly to heal the rift between the two. But the plan backfired after City's 2-0 home defeat by Blackburn.

Supporters staged a protest — against Swales, not Reid — and Maddock's reaction was to publicly criticise the players for their performance. The players were incensed, feeling Maddock had no right to criticise them at all, let alone in public.

But Maddock intensified his attack, saying: "I have the right of hire and fire and whatever should be done will be done. We felt that with the poor start to the season there was a need for a change of management and we felt it best to address the issue immediately."

The following day Reid was dismissed, despite having signed a new contract last summer, and Oxford United's Brian Horton was installed as City's 12th manager of the Swales era.

Forced out . . . Peter Reid.



The whole affair was messy, ugly and brutal. Maddock's role seems to have been little more than hatchet-man for Swales, while Reid still had support from players and fans.

City must now try to put the whole business behind them, but still have to contend with their runaway neighbours.

United go from strength to strength and already are three points clear of the chasing pack at the top of the table.

If anything, United are better than last season and manager Alex Ferguson has put together a side built on the basis that attack is the best form of defence.

When they have the ball, United swarm forward in waves, leaving centre-backs Gary Pallister, one of the few successes of England's summer tour to the US, and Steve Bruce, the only uncapped player in the side, to defend.

Full-backs Paul Parker, back to his splendid best after a serious knee injury, and Dennis Irwin, the under-rated Irishman, overlap down the flanks to link with the two wingers, Lee Sharpe and Ryan Giggs.

Giggs is still full of youthful energy and raw talent, but is surely one of the best players in the country at present. Sharpe has recovered from illness and injury and looks a better player than ever. To his creative ability he has added an eye for goal — four in his first three starts this season.

In midfield, Paul Ince and Roy Keane provide the drive and the power. Ince has become a vital member of United and England, the quick temper, which used to betray him, has been harnessed and is kept just below the surface.

Keane, though still settling in, already has demonstrated what he can add to United's already impressive weaponry. He already has scored two goals and will surely continue to profit with his powerful runs from deep.

On top of this there is Eric Cantona, the play-maker in midfield, and Mark Hughes, the battering ram up front.

Perhaps the best evaluation of this United side comes, not from the players in it, but from those waiting in the wings. That such accomplished players as Bryan Robson, Brian McClair, Andrei Kanchelskis, Mike Phelan, Clayton Blackmore and Dion Dublin cannot command a regular place bears ample testament to United's quality.

As for the rest, it will be a case of trying to stay with United and hoping that they lose their way.

Liverpool started well, amid much hysteria about a return to the glory days at Anfield, but were then cruelly exposed by defeats at home to Tottenham and away to Coventry.

Aston Villa, last season's runners-up, have made a solid start, but could not hold United when they met at Villa Park in the game of the season so far.

Arsenal, double Cup-winners last term, but horrendously inconsistent in the League, opened their campaign with a 3-0 defeat at home to Coventry, with Mick Quinn scoring a hat-trick.

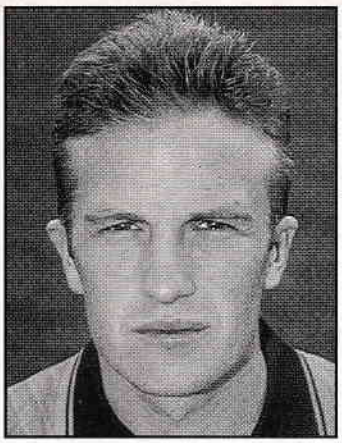
The Gunners have recovered since with four wins from their next five games and could be United's biggest threat this season.

One curiosity was the appalling start made by Sheffield Wednesday. They had to wait until the 12th minute of their fourth game, at Chelsea, for their first goal of the season and then squandered a 3-0 lead at home to Norwich in a 3-3 draw.

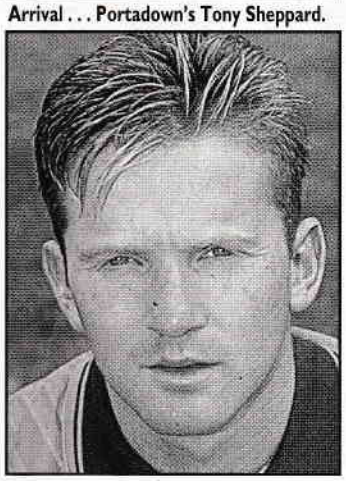
England winger Andy Sinton has joined the Owls from QPR, allowing manager Trevor Francis to finally release Paul Warhurst to Blackburn in a £2.9million deal.

JOHN KELLY

Ups and downs from '95



Arrival . . . Portadown's Tony Sheppard.



Arrival . . . Portadown's Joe McLeod.

AFTER many years of discussion and debate the Irish League have decided to introduce a system of promotion and relegation.

The proposal is that, after totting up the points totals for 1993-94 and 1994-95, a Premier Division of eight clubs and a First Division of eight clubs will be formed, with one club relegated and one promoted each season. Each team will play the others four times, making 28 fixtures in each division.

It's a big step for the Irish League, which has never had promotion and relegation before, but one which the majority of clubs now feel necessary to increase the popularity of the sport and to bring the Irish League into line with every other country in Europe.

The season opened with the traditional Ulster Cup and Gold Cup competitions. These give teams half a dozen games to integrate new signings before the League starts in earnest.

Portadown, who missed major honours last term, have made a determined bid to get back among the top clubs. The addition of Scottish forwards Joe McLeod (Motherwell) and Trevor Smith (Hamilton), and midfielder Tony Sheppard (Motherwell), looks likely to give the fans plenty to cheer about, despite the loss of last season's leading scorer Stevie Cowan, another Scot, who scored 47 goals in all competitions but surprisingly was released.

The Charity Shield match between League champions Linfield and Irish Cup-winners Bangor ended 1-1, and both clubs should be leading contenders again. Linfield have splashed out on striker Gary Haylock from Shelbourne and Gary Peebles, a midfielder from Partick Thistle, who guested last season for Portadown.

Bangor's major signings were Marc Kenny, a 19-year-old midfielder from Dublin who had spent three years with Liverpool, and striker Paul Gray, 23, from Wigan Athletic, who played for Bangor in 1986 as a 16-year-old.

UEFA Cup contestants Crusaders have lost Barry Hunter, transferred to Wrexham, but have gained skilful striker Glenn Hunter, back at Seaview after a couple of seasons with Linfield.

Ards have signed Limerick midfielder Ken de Mange, twice capped by the Republic of Ireland and regarded as one of the best players in the League of Ireland last year.

This looks like being another tight race, with the added spice that every point is vital for clubs looking to a Premier Division place two years from now.

ROY KITSON

DAVID O'LEARY changed clubs at the age of 35, after two decades with Arsenal — and KEN GOLDMAN asks him about past and future

Starting over

'Anfield victory was THE highlight'

KG: ***Leeds is a new challenge, any regrets at leaving Highbury after all those years?***

DO'L: It was always my ambition to play 20 years at Arsenal. I was sad to have left but I would have been more sorry if I could not have completed those 20 years. It gave me great satisfaction to have broken almost every record at the club.

KG: ***At the start of last season you would hardly have expected such a grandstand finish.***

DO'L: You have to keep an open mind in football. I played in the Coca-Cola Cup Final when it was unfortunate for Lee Dixon that he was suspended. That was my 12th appearance for the Gunners at Wembley and it was as good as any of them.

KG: ***What were your highlights playing for Arsenal?***

DO'L: The moment that stands out was the victory that clinched the League Championship at Anfield in 1989. I have won cups at Wembley in different competitions but to become Champions of England — and the way that we achieved it — was beyond belief. There have been other highlights, too. My earliest recollections were of Bertie Mee saying that I might play a few games to get started but I actually finished up playing about 40 matches before I reached 18.

Getting to three Wembley finals in succession was great and then going on to the Cup-Winners Cup Final — even though we lost — was special.

Other feats were equalling George Armstrong's appearance record at Highbury against Derby and beating it the following week against Norwich in front of the fans who were so good to me throughout my career; beating Liverpool in the League Cup Final at Wembley and of course the double Cup triumphs last season.

My ambition was to be the first Arsenal player to reach 700 games for the club and so almost everything I could have dreamed about in the domestic game has come true.

KG: ***You played under some influential managers. Who stands out?***

DO'L: The three best probably were Bertie Mee, Don Howe and George Graham. If I had to select the best it would be George Graham, because he is an all-rounder working on coaching, designing the tactics and having the general ability to handle all the pressure, including the Press. There is only a certain breed of manager who can go to a club like Arsenal and only a certain breed of player who can succeed there with all the demands.

KG: ***Do you have any plans to be a manager?***

DO'L: I would want to try it and I would not be put off by the pressure. I have watched and listened to the people under whom I have played.

Especially Don Howe, Johnny Giles and Jack Charlton as well as George and I have particularly noticed that a good manager has to work out a game plan that the players are able to understand.

It is also important to know how to get the best out of players whether in a game or on the practice pitch. I like to think that if I did become a manager I would be able to exercise the discipline that is so necessary for success.

Inter's threat to Cwmbran

CWMBRAN TOWN'S venture as the first Welsh champions in Europe got off to an impressive start with a fine performance against League of Ireland side Cork City.

Town rushed to a 3-0 lead in the first half-hour, but tired and conceded two goals late on. Those away goals proved their undoing in the second leg, as Cork hit back from a goal down to win 2-1 on the night, square the tie, at 4-4 on aggregate, and win on away goals.

The runners-up last season, Inter Cardiff, have gone through many off-the-field changes. Former Cardiff City supremo Rick Wright has helped them to obtain sponsorship from Brains the brewery, and used his links with City to secure Ninian Park as Inter's home for the near future.

Inter Cardiff aim to be No. 1 club in Wales in the next few years. They have re-signed all of last year's squad and brought in some newcomers as well.

Wright's ambitions of Konica League football with Cardiff City fell foul of the fans' opposition to the idea of leaving English soccer, despite the virtual certainty of dominance had they taken the step that virtually

KG: ***You have never made any secret of your desire to play for the Republic of Ireland. Is that desire still as strong?***
DO'L: Yes it is, and what I and all the other squad members are aiming for is to get to the US for the World Cup next year. It would be the icing on the cake, a wonderful way to finish my international career. Playing for Jack Charlton is a real experience and he has deserved his success. He has brought a certain way of playing to the side and has created a belief among the players.

They give 100 per cent and we have a marvellous family atmosphere, which obviously helps.

Delight . . . at Liverpool in 1989.

KG: ***You finished up taking your only penalty in a cauldron-type atmosphere in the last World Cup.***
DO'L: I enjoyed the fact that it fell to me to take the deciding fifth kick. I knew that the people at the match and all those watching on television were focusing on me and it was therefore down to me to score the decider but that pressure made it all the more exciting.

In a team sport you are rarely thrown into the spotlight for a moment like that and I felt as if I was a golfer putting to win on the last hole. I had the nerves, I had the pressure, but I also had the enjoyment of the moment. Although I was not a regular penalty-taker I always felt I could contribute something to a shoot-out.

If someone had asked me to do the same thing against Valencia in our Cup-Winners Cup final I would have been pleased to have a go.

Determination . . . at Leeds United in 1993.

KG: ***The last week of last season must have been an incredibly emotional time?***
DO'L: I was involved in my second testimonial game at the club and despite what I have said about winning the championship at Anfield, the testimonial night was as good as anything I have ever experienced.

Manchester United were fabulous, Arsenal FC looked after my family in the most wonderful way and the directors made everything such a fantastic night. Then came my farewell the following week. Nobody could have scripted walking down the steps at Wembley with the FA Cup in my final game for the club, especially with the last-minute goal to end it all like that. It was fairytale stuff and I could not help getting a lump in my throat. Now I hope the Leeds fans at Elland Road will take to me in the same way.

would have guaranteed Champions Cup entry for many years, along the lines of Rangers in Scotland.

Inter will prove the side to beat this year, and start as favourites for the title along with Cwmbran.

Both got off to winning starts in their League campaigns, Inter 2-1 at Caersws and Cwmbran 1-0 against visiting Connan's Quay Nomads.

The two promoted sides also got off to a good start against reputable opponents. Ton Pentre overcame Mold Alexandra 2-1, and Llsantffraid sank Briton Ferry Athletic 3-1.

The main fight the Konica League of Wales faces this term is continued media ignorance of the competition.

The lack of a national newspaper for Wales means a scarcity of coverage nationwide for the league.

This can only harm the member clubs — especially in their search for sponsors. *BBC Wales TV* have their own official start to the Konica season — the day Rugby Union starts in Wales — and the network Saturday afternoon Grandstand patronisingly refuses to screen results from both the Konica League and the Irish League. Lower levels of the English game are preferred.

MEL AP IOR THOMAS

Real targets for all clubs — especially Rangers

IN WHAT is likely to be a watershed season for domestic football in Scotland, 1993-94 began as 1992-93 ended, with Rangers on top.

The latest league reconstruction package means that at the end of this season, the 38 senior clubs, together with two from any one of the Highland, East and South Leagues, will be reshuffled into an unprecedented set-up comprising four divisions of 10, with an element of leap-frogging being built into the proposal in order to provide real incentives for the current term.

For example, the five teams who finish at the lower end of the present First Division will go into the new Second Division, while this year's Second Division champions will be rewarded with a place in next season's First Division in a footballing version of Snakes and Ladders.

All supremely confusing, but the proposal at least ensures that virtually every club will have a realistic, predetermined target at which to aim and, as a consequence, meaningless matches should be largely eliminated.

Rangers began in their customary positive manner, inflicting an opening-day defeat on perennial challengers Hearts despite being without seven internationals through injury.

With £20m of talent on the sidelines, Rangers continue to exert a blatant degree of domination over the game.

Credit for this must go to manager Walter Smith who, unlike predecessor Graeme Souness, has largely forsaken the power of the chequebook and has taken time to oversee the development of a comprehensive youth policy. The results are now becoming evident.

Talented youngsters such as Neil Murray, Stephen Pressley and David Hagen have broken through at first-team level, and with several similarly-gifted teenagers knocking on the door, established regulars like Richard Gough, Trevor Steven and Ally McCoist have every reason to cast occasional nervous glances over their shoulders.

That situation has not been apparent at Ibrox for some time, but it is welcomed by those concerned in ensuring healthy competition for places.

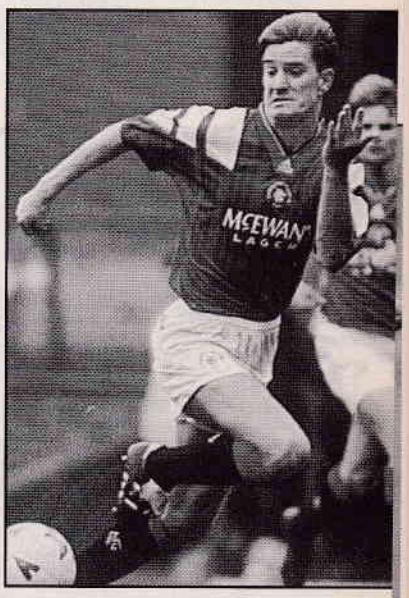
There are no such luxuries for Celtic manager Liam Brady. While Rangers were throwing £4m at Dundee United to secure the transfer of Duncan Ferguson, Celtic had to wait until they had off-loaded reserve striker Joe Miller to Aberdeen before they could afford to sign midfielder Pat McGinlay from Hibernian.

Draws in the two opening fixtures did little to allay the aura of pessimism which seems to have settled permanently around Celtic Park, and it looks like yet another long, hard season for Brady and his men.

There is, however, a distinct mood of optimism around Tynecastle Park as new manager Sandy Clark tries to revitalise Hearts.

While it would be unrealistic to expect them to win a major trophy, they have at least started the season in a buoyant manner and the introduction of a series of exciting young players (Kevin Thomas, Allan Johnston and Gary Locke) has helped to restore the entertainment factor which has been noticeably absent over the past few seasons.

ALAN FAIRLEY



Straining . . . Richard Gough of Rangers.

Signing . . . Celtic's Pat McGinlay.

Zetti's torment

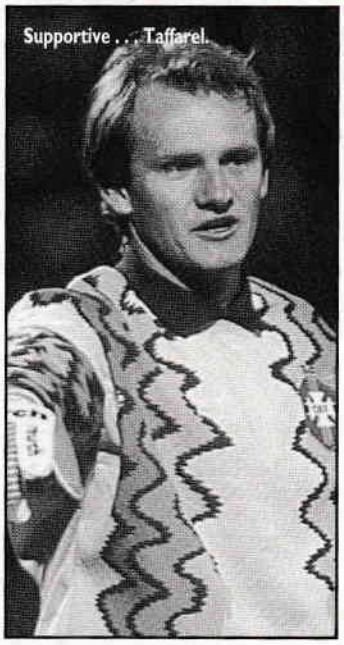
FIFA drop false drugs charge

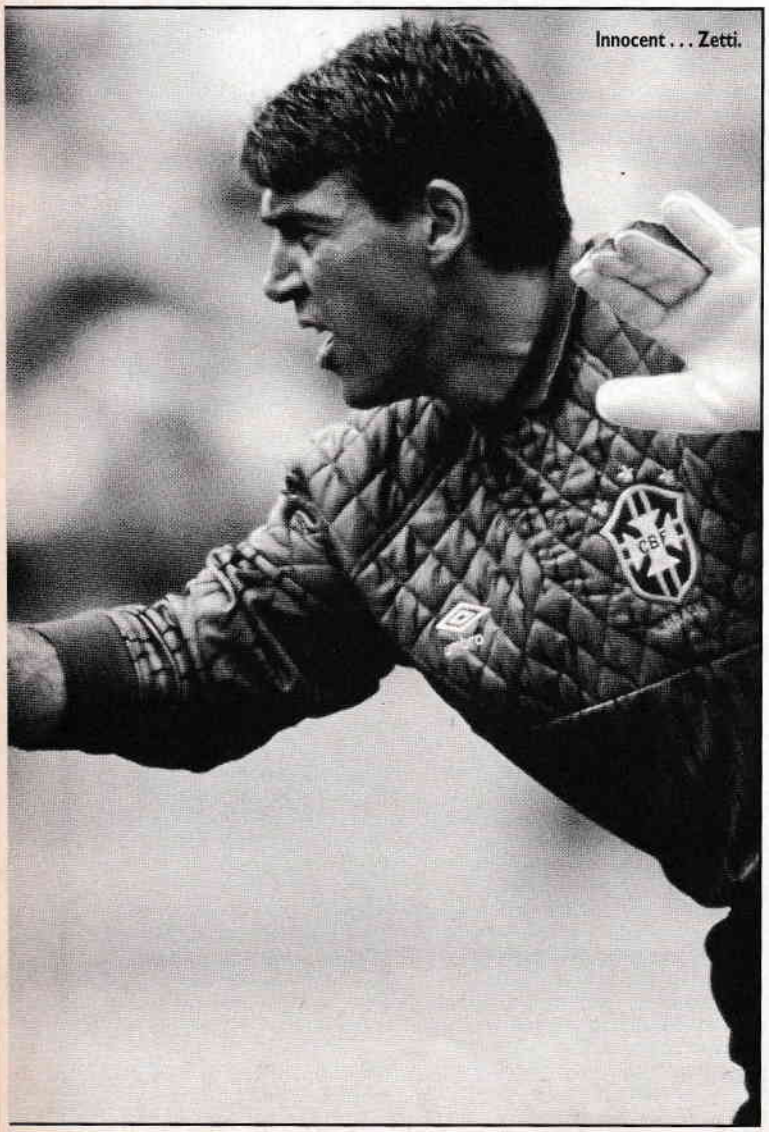
DISASTER could not have happened to a nicer bloke. Zetti, the Brazilian goalkeeper wrongly accused by FIFA of taking cocaine, is a comparatively rare example of a quiet, intelligent, level-headed person in a profession which suffers more than its fair share of temperamental, tantrum-prone superbrats.

Zetti's world caved in on him when he was having lunch with the rest of the Brazilian squad in the Venezuelan town of Santo Domingo as they awaited the flight to Brazil after a World Cup qualifying match.

FIFA had banned him indefinitely after finding traces of cocaine in tests carried out after the Bolivia v Brazil game in La Paz. That was the wording used by FIFA and it immediately put Zetti, to all who do not know him, in the same category as Diego Maradona and Claudio Caniggia.

To whose who know anything about Zetti, FIFA seemed to have as much grounds for accusation as a polar bear would if accusing a penguin of bullying.


Supportive . . . Taffarel.


Innocent . . . Zetti.

Zetti has an impeccable personality. Tributes to his good character immediately flowed in from all corners — the Brazilian squad, the neighbours in his apartment building in Sao Paulo, the people he grew up with in a small town in the interior of Sao Paulo state.

"I would put my hand in the fire for Zetti," said Sao Paulo team-mate Rai, using the Brazilian expression for saying that you believe in someone.

Brazil's first-choice goalkeeper, Taffarel, was even more forthright. "This is slander, there's no sense in it. We are not worried about it because we know it is not true."

Zetti is a model athlete, who has avoided trouble both off the field and on it. He never smokes, rarely drinks, and spends most of his spare time reading and painting or with his wife and three-month old daughter.

His professional behaviour is equally faultless. He does not blame the referee or his team-mates for his mistakes. He does not — Romario and others please note — try to loudmouth his way into the Brazil team, nor does he get into trouble with referees or fight with opponents. He even gives intelligent, interesting interviews.

The one blemish on his record was a sending-off for retaliation in a Libertadores Cup match last year in Uruguay.

Yet outside Brazil he was being placed in the same light as the two disgraced Argentinians.

FIFA took four days to recognise the mistake and admit that all Zetti had done was to drink a cup of Bolivia's coca tea. This, legally available in Bolivia, is made from a mixture of coca leaves — from which cocaine is produced — camomile and aniseed.

FIFA issued only a formal statement which, in their usual arrogant style, said only that Zetti and Miguel Rimba, the Bolivian defender who spent five days smeared with the same accusation, had not contravened doping regulations. There was nothing in the way of apologies.

There were murmurs that the two were thinking of suing FIFA, but so far this has not happened.

The news was announced to the world without having been communicated to the victims.

Zetti's wife heard about it from TV instead of from her husband and Zetti was left scrambling for a telephone in a small Venezuelan airport to be able to do what he could to explain.

Neither player was given the right of defence or even to an explanation and were left to depend on the goodwill of FIFA, who in these cases are both judge and jury.

While it was justice that it happened to two exemplary players, the consequences could have been worse still if a more controversial player had been involved. The instant backing Zetti and Rimba received may not have been so easily forthcoming.

The good old CBF once again showed their usual incompetence. Far from rushing to Zetti's defence, they axed him from the Brazil squad.

The CBF also announced that they had told the players about the risks of drinking coca tea, something which the players later denied.

According to them, even CBF president Ricardo Teixeira had a cup.

BRIAN HOMEWOOD

Referees

ARGENTINA'S Juan Bava watched passively as Brazil and Uruguay kicked lumps out of each other.

Venezuela's Francisco Faria got three penalty decisions wrong in one half. Chile's Hernan Silva twice deprived Ecuador of a legitimate equaliser in the last 15 minutes against Bolivia.

And Brazil's Jose Aparecido let Argentina's Fabian Basualdo stay on the pitch after an appalling tackle.

The refereeing in the South American World Cup qualifiers has pleased nobody apart, it seems, from FIFA and the hatchet men.

The former, apparently unconcerned at any loss to the credibility of their top competition, have stood idly by and watched their referees commit mistake after mistake.

The latter have been able to chop down South America's best players knowing that they are unlikely to be sent off.

The Sunday on which the four matches took place exemplified the problem. In Montevideo, Bava tried to control the life-or-death Uruguay v Brazil encounter with a softly-softly approach. He took more than an hour to produce the first yellow card, despite transgressions by both sides.

Brazil, determined to show Uruguay that they are not a soft touch, committed three fouls in the first three minutes — not enough to convince Bava to pull a card out of his pocket.

And what about kicking an opponent

Deaths mar historic victory

THE Colombian national team lived up to expectations by inflicting Argentina's first defeat in 31 games in a World Cup qualifier.

After two tight games in the Copa America, the Colombians were expected to make full use of the additional advantage of players in front of a huge, partisan crowd in Barranquilla.

Even in victory, though, things were not quite as sweet as hoped. The ensuing celebrations around Colombia claimed 100 lives, while the ticking bomb of Faustino Asprilla's indifferent form finally blew up when the young striker was excluded from the squad after

let the sides down

in the chest, as Brazil's Branco did to Francescoli? Perfectly allowable, according to Bava, who let Branco remain.

Over in Asuncion, Faria showed that Venezuela's referees are even weaker than their team as he made a complete hash of Paraguay v Peru. In the sixth minute, Peru's German Carthy was tripped in the box by Silvio Suarez. Play on, said Faria. In the 28th minute, Paraguay's Alfredo Mendoza missed a header at the Peruvian goal but was given a penalty as a consolation.

On the stroke of half-time, perhaps with a heavy conscience, Faria gave a penalty to Peru for a foul on Ronald Barona, who was clearly offside at the time.

On to La Paz, where Silva, rather than the dreaded altitude, gave Bolivia a 1-0 win over Ecuador. He awarded a free-kick on the edge of the area when Ecuador's Angel Fernandez was tripped a good metre inside, then inexplicably annulled what would have been Ecuador's equaliser, alleging a foul on Carlos Trucco, the Bolivian goalkeeper.

Aparecido twice watched from afar as Colombia and Argentina pushed and shoved each other when their match boiled over. But his biggest mistake was to show only a yellow card to Basualdo, who had ignored the ball and chopped down Wilson Perez.

Typical . . . yet another South American foul.

FIFA need to take action, and could do worse than explain the rather strange arrangement whereby a Brazilian referee took charge of the Argentina match, and vice versa.

Other refereeing displays have been similarly horrific, the one notable exception was Ernesto Filippi's admirable handling of the explosive Paraguay v Argentina game, in which he correctly sent off two players from each side and kept the situation from going out of control.

Argentina captain Oscar Ruggeri, one of the biggest beneficiaries of weak referring, was among those to go, for a foul on Paraguay's veteran striker Roberto Cabanas.

The feud between the two was proceeding all afternoon and continued in the media in the week after the match, which Argentina eventually won 3-1.

an argument with coach Francisco Maturana.

Since the end of the last Italian season, Asprilla has had problems coping with increased expectations. For the Copa America, only the intervention of the national team's sponsors — waving a cheque for $50,000 — ended Asprilla's holidays on the beach, whereupon Maturana showed an understandable reluctance to play him in preference to players who had been with the squad throughout.

After quiet performances there, and an incident with a fan trying to take his photo at Bogota airport, Asprilla virtually disappeared in the World Cup game in Peru, prompting Maturana to drop him.

Some of the other players approached Maturana for a reconciliation.

Asprilla apologised for his behaviour, and was re-instated to the squad, but his place against Argentina was taken by the Barranquilla-based Ivan Rene Valenciano, who duly scored after only three minutes of his first full international match.

The Colombian secret police (DAS) have announced that they are actively investigating five un-named clubs with regards to money laundering for the two major drug cartels of Medellin and Cali.

The head of DAS, Fernando Brito, revealed that football was one of the most popular sources of laundering cash, particularly with the buying and selling of players.

Up to now, while aware of the problem, the authorities have not done a great deal. In general, 6,000 businesses in Colombia are under investigation.

Former World Cup player Carlos Enrique Estrada has joined Medellin from Deportivo Cali, having made a highly-encouraging recovery from a career-threatening injury.

Colombia have not entered a team for the second edition of the Copa Conmebol, the South American version of the UEFA Cup.

Deportivo Cali declined because of their already crowded fixture list, and subsequent overtures to Junior Barranquilla, Pereira and Medellin met the same response.

KEITH SMITH

FIFA list with a few surprises

ARGENTINA are the best South American soccer-playing nation . . . and that's official.

The first international ranking list issued by FIFA, the World authority, place Argentina in fifth place, with Brazil eighth and Colombia 19th.

Mexico, officially a Central American nation although often referred to as South American, are 14th.

The rankings confirm Argentina's place as South America's best, following their successful defence of the Copa America this summer.

The rankings, compiled from a complex points system based on matches over the last six years and due to be released every month, is aimed at producing a definitive table of the world's national sides.

Although FIFA admit the merits of the system will be questioned, they believe it is an accurate guide.

Masters . . . Argentina are the worlds best

General secretary Sepp Blter said: "It could be a stimulus, an incentive to teams to play more and play better.

"At the end of every year the best team will be announced and the team who have made the most progress."

Every international from friendlies and continental championships to World Cup qualifiers and finals is included in the equation.

The computerised rankings take into account points for goals scored and conceded, bonus points for away matches, multiplying factors for various competitions, and regional strengths and weaknesses of teams

But the new rankings have no bearing on the seedings for World Cup '94.

England are in 11th place, but Graham Taylor and his squad are ahead of World Cup qualifying rivals Holland and Poland, and just below European champions Denmark in the rankings.

The Republic of Ireland are in sixth place behind world champions Germany, with Italy second and Switzerland third after their dramatic recent improvement in World Cup qualifying form.

Resurgent Wales are in 27th place on 44.40 points, with Scotland 30th (41.79) and Northern Ireland 40th (37.19).

THE TOP 20

1	Germany	57.50
2	Italy	56.99
3	Switzerland	56.81
4	Sweden	56.35
5	Argentina	56.20
6	Republic of Ireland	55.38
7	Russia	54.67
8	Brazil	54.49
9	Norway	54.35
10	Denmark	53.47
11	England	52.89
12	France	51.90
13	Spain	50.83
14	Mexico	50.27
15	CIS	50.03
16	Holland	49.97
17	Nigeria	49.53
18	Belgium	47.77
19	Colombia	47.67
20	Poland	47.57

Why Zaguinho put Mexico before Brazil

First choice

NOT MANY players would give up all chance of playing for Brazil and opt instead for another country.

Luis Roberto Alves is one who did. He chose to put Mexico first — and his remarkable displays in the CONCACAF Gold Cup and the Copa America earlier this year must have made many Brazilians, from coach Carlos Alberto Parreira downwards, wish he had not made that decision.

Alvez is easily the tallest member of the Mexcian squad, and looks and sounds Brazilian.

He speaks Spanish with a heavy Portuguese tone — hardly surprising, because he grew up in Portuguese-speaking Brazil.

He was born in Mexico City when his father, known as Zague, was playing there for the America club, but was taken to Brazil when only two years old.

"I was called O Mexicano when I was at school in Sao Paulo," he says.

Now he is known as Zaguinho (Little Zague), and his name is becoming much more widely known.

Not surprisingly in view of his goals in all five Gold Cup matches — a total of 12, including seven in one match against Martinque — and a major role in Mexico's runners-up spot in the Copa America.

Zaguinho never had any doubt about which nation he wanted to represent. He was qualified for Mexico by birth and for Brazil through his father's nationality, but put Mexico first all the time.

"Officials at America knew I was Mexican and contacted me when I was in my teens," says Zaguinho, who is now 26.

Regular scoring with his club, America, took him to international status, but even his CONCACAF scoring feats did not give him an automatic place.

When the Copa America began in Ecuador, he was only a substitute, but he replaced Hugo Sanchez in the second half of the opening game, against Colombia, scored an equaliser, and was unlucky to finish on the losing side.

In the subsequent matches Zaguinho kept his place, partnered by Hugo Sanchez, with original first-choice Luis Garcia on the bench.

"I have to fight for my place against those two," he says.

So far, he seems to be winning that particular battle.

The Copa ended with Zaguinho having played in 22 full internationals and scored 15 goals.

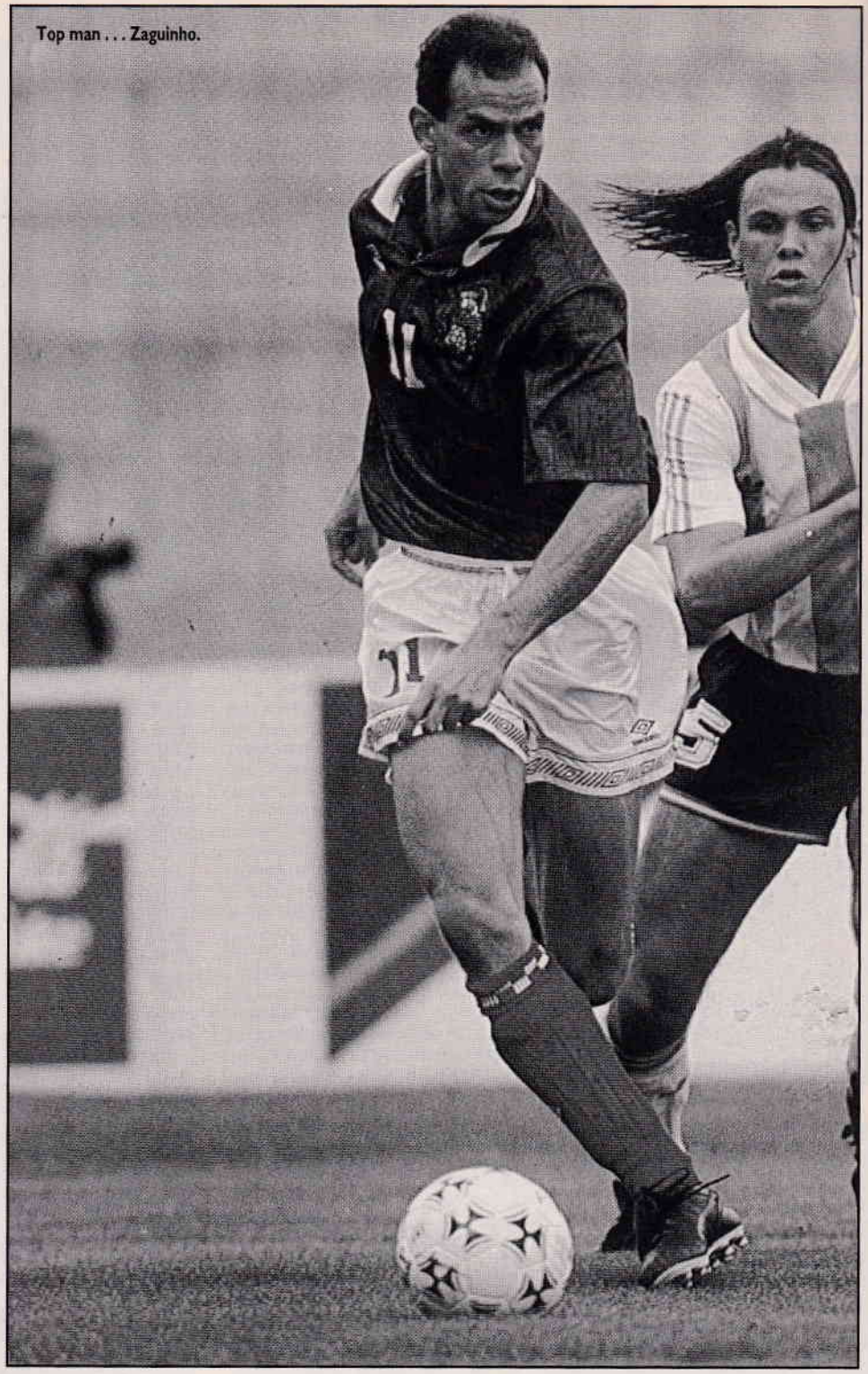
He was first capped by Cesar Luis Menotti, former World Cup winning coach of Argentina, but has blossomed under Miguel Meija Baron, who replaced Menotti and has built a squad capable of emulating or even bettering their country's best World Cup progress.

Mexico reached the quarter-finals in 1970 and in 1986, playing in their own country on both occasions.

This time, with a lot of support in the United States, they might go even further.

If Zaguinho keeps up his recent form, that's quite possible.

Certainly there are plenty of Brazilians who look at their team's mediocre form in the qualifying tournament and wonder whether or not Little Zague is going to be the only Brazilian player at the World Cup.


Top man . . . Zaguinho.

PRO-FILE

LUIS ROBERTO ALVES ZAGUINHO

AMERICA (Mex) AND MEXICO

Born: 28th May, 1967 in Mexico City.

International caps: 22 (15 goals).

HONOURS

Mexican Championship: 1987, 1988.

Surf and turf

Keeper strikes right balance

JORGE CAMPOS looks as if he had just walked off the beach after surfing Acapulco's Pacific rollers, with the collar of his brightly coloured suit — matching his bermudas — turned up against the burning Mexican sun.

If he had had more confidence in his surfing ability he might have been lost to his chosen profession: soccer.

"I would have liked to have taken part in a surfing championship," Campos says on being asked about his interests outside football.

Acapulco-born Campos is Mexico's leading goalkeeper, with his place in the 1994 World Cup finals already secured after helping his country through the CONCACAF qualifying rounds.

He was part of the squad who very nearly upstaged their South American hosts in July's Copa America in Ecuador.

Mexico, taking part for the first time as guests, reached the final and lost only 2-1 to holders Argentina.

The Copa America was the stage on which Campos, described by coach Cesar Luis Menotti as a goalkeeper of the 21st century, first came to the attention of a worldwide football audience.

Menotti, Argentina's World Cup-winning coach in 1978, was in charge of the Mexico team until the end of last year and gave Campos his first cap in 1991.

Campos has top-level experience as a forward as well as a keeper, and stands well outside his penalty area when his side are on the offensive.

"By playing so far up he prevents counter-attacks," says Menotti.

"His presence sometimes inhibits forwards. And he's incredibly quick at getting back.

"Now and again he could concede a silly goal, but how many will he have prevented?"

Campos makes up for below-average height for a goalkeeper with great agility and reflexes — his experience of Pacific breakers may have helped — and he says: "I learnt a lot from Menotti, like cutting down angles."

Campos played most of one season in the Mexican First Division with his only club, UNAM, as a striker, and was the team's top scorer in 1989 with 14 goals.

"The side had a very good goalkeeper and I realised I wouldn't be able to break into the team, so I asked the coach for a chance outfield," Campos said.

Now he even plays the odd match in goal for the first half and up front after the interval.

In one Mexico game on the way to the CONCACAF Gold Cup trophy in July he laid on two goals.

Campos, who says the new FIFA back-pass rule favours his style of keeping, has no preference for playing in goal or up front, although he adds: "A forward has more chance to express his joy at scoring than a goalkeeper does at saving."

Both Campos and Mexico's current coach Miguel Mejia Baron, are aware of the risks involved in the keeper's style of play.

"I know that at some time or other they are going to score a goal against me from far out because of my constant advances, but that's not going to make me change my style," Campos says.

Mejia Baron's view is: "Football's a game of risk and we accept the risks Campos takes. He has the backing of his team and the coach."

Alfio Basile, coach of Argentina, prefers the orthodox type of goalkeeper, such as his immensely successful penalty-saving expert, Sergio Goycochea, and is not convinced about the merits of the Campos style.

"When they get to know him, he'll have to stay back more and more," says Basile, whose team three times went close to beating Campos with lobs from near halfway during the 1-1 draw in the Copa America.

The critics sometimes call Campos a clown — a description justified by his outfits of bright pink with red, blue and green squares.

Campos is 26, a bachelor from a middle-class background, with three brothers and four sisters and a father who owns a construction company.

He gave up English language studies when the national team began to demand more and more of his time.

As for his image, Campos would like his country's media to make up their minds about him.

"When I played as a forward, journalists complained at the idea of a keeper playing up front," he says with a grin.

"Then, when I had scored a few, they complained when I was put back in goal."

PHIL McVIE

PRO-FILE

JORGE CAMPOS NAVARRETE

UNAM AND MEXICO

Born: 15 October 1966, in Acapulco.

International caps: Exact figure unavailable. His claim of approximately 40 could include "B" and youth internationals as well as matches against non-national teams.

HONOURS

CONCACAF Gold Cup: 1993.

Mexican Championship: 1990.

adidas & WORLD SOCCER

Soccer community supports AFCT

THE formation of the Association of Football Coaches and Teachers Association has certainly struck a chord around the world of soccer.

The Association, which is still in its infancy, has been contacted by interested coaches from continents around the globe as well as over 200 members joining from Britain alone.

Coaches from New Zealand, US, Australia, Chile, Finland, Sweden, Iceland and Japan also have joined.

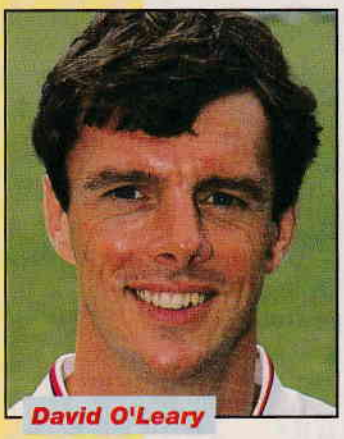
Dick Bate, the former Regional Coach for the Football Association and Youth Team Coach at Leeds, has now enrolled in the AFCT in his post as Director of Coaching in Malaysia.

Many members are now asking for forms to be sent to friends and coaching contacts of their own and this will further expand the membership.

The close season is viewed by many as a quiet spell for those involved in soccer, but Rob Littleford, Administrator of the AFCT, has been inundated with membership applications as he prepares his plans for the practical coaching sessions and co-ordinates the mail-out of the adidas AFCT tracksuits included in the membership package.

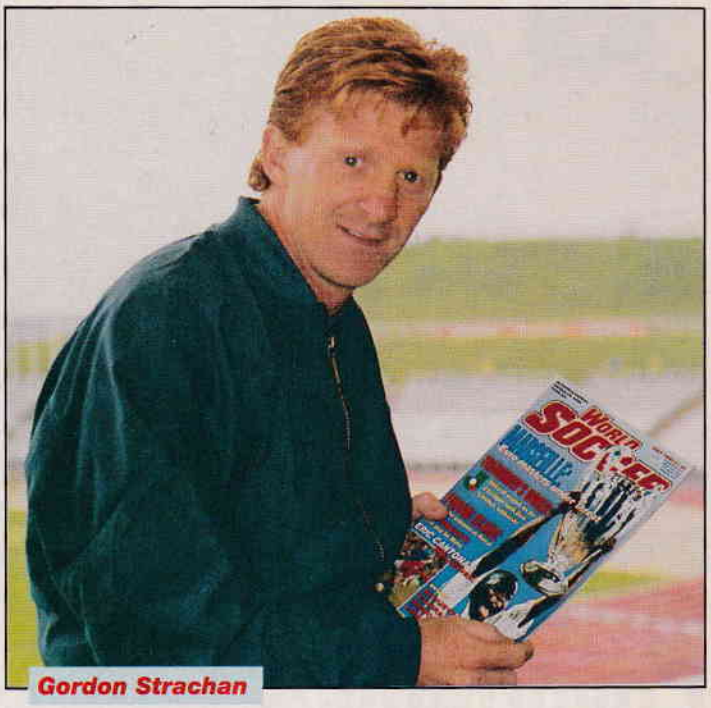
Rob has had a problem in this area with adidas choosing August as the month to completely relocate their warehouse operations to their new premises in Hazel Grove, Stockport.

New members can help Rob with a show of patience and understanding with the tracksuits and they should have all been sent out by the time this article appears.



David O'Leary

Don Howe



Gordon Strachan

The AFCT had a stand at the National Football Show at the NEC in Birmingham during the first weekend in September. This gave members and potential members the opportunity of meeting some of the committee to exchange their views.

Rob Littleford, Graham Morgan and John Morton are now preparing the promotional programme for the year with sessions involving Don Howe, Bob Wilson, Gordon Strachan, David O'Leary, Coerver Coaching and others.

Initial plans had to be amended somewhat when Bob Wilson developed problems following a knee operation and then David O'Leary suffered an achilles heel injury playing for Leeds. The AFCT wishes them both a speedy recovery and hope to be seeing them taking their coaching sessions for the AFCT before winter starts.

Preparation work for the coaching magazine continues and this month's competition revolves around choosing a title for the AFCT coaching publication. Members should send their suggested title to Rob Littleford.

The prize for the winner is an adidas manager's coat, an adidas suit carrier and a pair of Copa Mundial soccer shoes, the most popular moulded shoe in the world.

The adidas coat and the Copa Mundial soccer shoes will be on special offer to members through a promotion in the AFCT magazine — so get your suggestions for the title sent in to Rob today and you could be saving yourself some cash.

The Committee wish everyone a successful start to the season and we all look forward to meeting the members at the sessions around the country.

How to join the AFCT

adidas & WORLD SOCCER

Special Membership Offer

- **12 months' membership.**
- **4 quarterly issues of the Association of Football Coaches and Teachers Coaching Magazine.**
- **An adidas drill tracksuit (with AFCT badge).**
- **Special offers, to AFCT members only, of adidas products at special prices (details in magazine).**
- **Discount on all AFCT sessions and seminars etc for AFCT members.**
- **Cost £35 (£5 discount if you are already a member of a local coaching Association i.e. Sheffield or London Football Coaches Association).**

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Please return with SAE to: Mr Rob Littleford, Administrator, AFCT, Penmore House, Hasland Road, Hasland, Chesterfield, S41 OSJ.

Withdrawal . . . Congo's poor World Cup results, including this 1-0 defeat in South Africa, has led to a Government ban on the clubs.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Government ban hits clubs

CONGO

NO teams will be entered in next year's three Africa club competitions, because of a Government decision.

This is a result of the poor performance of the national team and club sides in competition this year.

Congo finished bottom of their World Cup qualifying group, losing home and away to Nigeria and South Africa, and bottom in their Africa Nations Cup qualifying group, which featured Burundi and Guinea.

In the Champions Cup, Etoile du Congo were knocked out in the first round by AS Sogara of Gabon; in the Cup-winners Cup, CARA Brazzaville lost to Angola's Petro Atletico at the first hurdle, and Retrosport from Pointe-Noire went out in the CAF Cup second round.

Noel "Pepe" Minga has been replaced as national coach by Joseph-Marie Madienguela.

CAMEROON

UNFASHIONABLE Unsiport Bafang and defending champions Racing Bafoussam shared the lead with eight matches left.

Both had 31 points, two more than third-placed Union Douala.

Canon Yaounde, second last season, were ninth, nine points off the leaders. They were surprisingly beaten in the quarter-finals of the CAF Cup.

CHAD

RENAISSANCE D'ABECHE won the National Cup tournament, beating the favourites, Elecsport Ndjamena, 3-2 in the final.

NORTH AFRICA

MOROCCO

WYDAD won the championship by eight points in a season that proved to be a statistician's delight.

No fewer than 103 matches in the 240-long programme were drawn, and only 402 goals were scored. Only Wydad, with 51 goals, averaged more than one per match, only the bottom pair, El Jadida and Raja Beni Mellal, conceded more than tha.

Royal Armed Forces had the oddest record of all — 17 draws in 30 starts and only 35 goals, 18 for and 17 against.

TUNISIA

ESPERANCE won the championship with ease, their total of 43 points putting them nine clear of runners-up JS Kairouan.

EGYPT

ZAMALEK were convincing winners of the championship, losing only one of their 26 matches and finishing six points clear of Al Ahly.

They scored 51 goals, 13 higher than the next best total, with such a spread of fire-power that Negma's 12 made him their leading individual marksman.

El Kas of Olympic was the League's top scorer with 16 of his club's 29 goals.

The Cup Final will be between Al Ahly, who beat Arab Contractors 1-0 in their semi-final, and Mehalla, who defeated Al Masri 6-5 on penalties after a 0-0 draw.

The national squad won the seven-nation President's Cup in South Korea, beating the hosts 1-0 in the final. Reda Abdelal scored, four minutes from time.

Egypt are now coached by Mohammed Seddik, who replaced Mahmoud El-Gohori — sacked after elimination from the World Cup.

AZAM MAHMOOD

EAST AFRICA

MAURITIUS

SUNRISE SC's four-year run as champions has been ended by Fire Brigade, favourites with the island's Creole population.

Fire Brigade won the title by four points, and will represent the island in the 1994 African Champions Cup.

Sunrise, whose captain Ashley Mocude was the League's leading scorer with 28 goals, are hoping to go into the CAF Cup next year, but will have to wait for a decision by the government, who traditionally pay for teams to participate in African club competition.

Normally the Mauritian authorities cover the transport costs for only one team in Africa, and Mauritius enter only a team in the Champions Cup. But Sunrise, owned by the island's luxury hotel chain, Sun International, have asked for an extension of that sponsorship.

Two clubs, Mahebourg United and Young Tigers, were relegated at the end of the season, with only one promoted — Blue Whales from Le Morne on the south-western tip of the island.

ZAMBIA

THERE was a great roar of approval at the Independence stadium in Lusaka before Zambia's key World Cup tie against Morocco.

But it was not for the rebuilt team, attempting to keep alive the memories of their 18 compatriots killed in April's air tragedy, but for a man who earns his living talking about the game.

Commentator Dennis Liwewe, a legend in his own lifetime in the region, was rumoured to have died after flying to South Africa for treatment of a suspected heart attack.

But after a week in hospital in Johannesburg he was back in his post for Zambian radio. His arrival at the stadium was greeted with frenzied clapping and cheering.

There is a tradition in Lusaka for Liwew to announce the teams before international matches, slowly calling out each name in the style of a boxing MC to roars or boos from the crowd.

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP

Algeria expelled

ALGERIA have been kicked out of the African Nations Cup finals for fielding a suspended player in the qualifying tournament.

The Algerians, who qualified in second place in Group B, were expelled by the Confederation of African Football because, Mourad Karouf, who played against Senegal in Dakar, had been sent off in the previous qualifying game, and was supposed to sit out the next one.

The situation came to light ahead of the return match between the two countries, to decide the outcome of second place behind Sierra Leone.

Senegal's protest was lodged ahead of the game, which they lost 4-0. After a three-week delay while CAF investigated, Algeria were found guilty of having fielded the banned player, and kicked out of the tournament.

Senegal now go to next year's finals despite a very poor qualifying run. Algeria have appealed but are unlikely to find much sympathy.

The decision has precipitated a crisis in Algerian football, where heads within the federation are expected to roll.

The already poor footballing relations with Egypt, where CAF have their headquarters; are expected to deteriorate even further.

Algeria's expulsion follows that of Togo for fielding a suspended player, Yengi Kodjo — ironically enough in their qualifier against Algeria in April. Togo's results were declared void.

WEST AFRICA

IVORY COAST

ASEC ABIDJAN's run of 101 domestic matches without defeat ended in the Cup, when they lost to bitter rivals Africa Sports.

A headed goal two minutes from time, by Nigerian international midfielder Thompson Oliha, gave Sports — African Cup-winners Cup holders — a place in the semi-finals.

The match, in Abidjan, was watched by a capacity 45,000 crowd.

ASEC, who had scored 299 goals in their unbeaten run, squandered numerous first-half chances before Sports took control.

They have not lost since their 1-0 defeat to Vital'O of Burundi in the first leg of last year's Cup-winners Cup final, in November.

As the second phase of the championship started, so ASEC suffered a surprising home draw against ASC Bouake, leaving Africa Sport and Stella Abidjan to set the early pace.

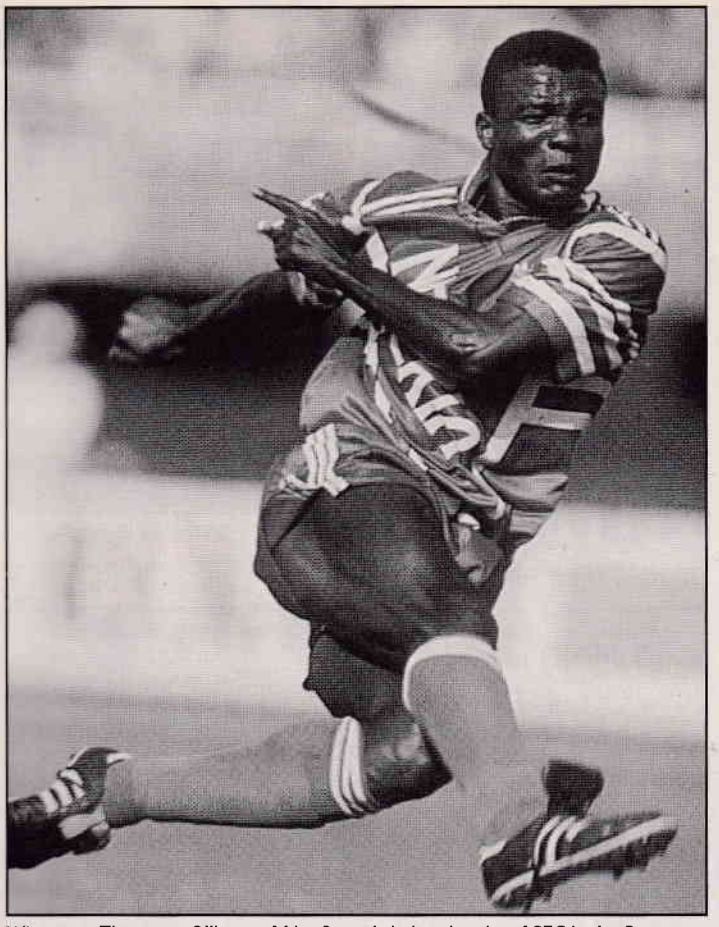
ASEC are now coached by Frenchman Jean-Marc Guillou, who has had past experience in the region.

SENEGAL

NATIONAL team striker Moussa Ndaw, who plays in Saudi Arabia, has been voted Senegal's Footballer of the Year.

He was placed ahead of three other foreign-based players in voting conducted by the daily newspaper Le Soleil — Roger Mendy (Pescara, Italy), Souleymane Sane (Wattenscheid, Germany) and the Tunisian-based Adama Cisse.

AS Douanes are close to taking the title, two points ahead of highly fancied Jeanne d'Arc. Defending champions ASC Ndiambour are seven points off the pace.



Winner . . . Thompson Oliha got Africa Sports' vital goal against ASEC in the Cup.

BENIN

GERMAN coach Peter Schnittger has lost his post as national team coach after the poor performances in both the World Cup and African Nations Cup qualifying campaigns.

He is staying in the country as technical director for the Benin Federation.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

COACH Napoleao Brandao has been spending time at Sporting Lisbon in Portugal to pick up tips from their coach, former England manager Bobby Robson.

SOUTH AFRICA

Phiri's fluke is so important

MOROKA SWALLOWS continued to top South Africa's NSL during a period when many matches were postponed because of internationas in Zambia and Mauritius and the early rounds of the Coca-Cola NSL League Cup.

Swallows consolidated their position with a 1-0 defeat of second-placed Mamelodi Sundowns, thanks to a fluke 41st minute goal by Phiri Tsotesi.

During a bad weekend for Transvaal-based clubs, Swallows, Jomo Cosmos, Orlando Pirates and Wits University all failed to reach the quarter-finals of the Coca-Cola Cup.

Swallows failed after a penalty shoot-out at Transkei Independence Stadium, when Umtata Bucks keeper Nigel Dixon saved three penalties

Kaizer Chiefs survived only by courtesy of a home penalty shoot-out win against Witbank Aces. Defeat for Pirates was greeted by stone-throwing and cost Brazilian-born coach Walter Da Silva his job. Assistant Phil Setshedi has taken over as caretaker.

Owen Nzimande's 80th-minute goal kept Amazulu on course to retain the Cup in a struggle against QwaQwa Stars.

BARRY BAKER

COCA-COLA CUP

Preliminary round

Amazulu 2, Welkom Eagles 2
Amazulu won 4-3 on pens
D'Alberton Callies 2, Dynamos 1 (aet)
Boemfontein Celtic 4, Vaal Professionals 3
Umtata Bucks 1, Pretoria City 1
Bucks won 4-3 on pens

First round

Cape Town Spurs 1, Wits University 0
Kaizer Chiefs 1, Witbank Aces 1
Chiefs won 4-3 on pens
Bloemfontein Celtic 0, Chatsworth Rangers 0
Celtic won 5-4 on pens
Mamelodi Sundowns 2, D'Alberton Callies 1
Amazulu 1, QwaQwa Stars 0
Orlando Pirates 1, Lightbody's Santos 2
Umtata Bucks 1, Moroka Swallows 1
Bucks won 3-1 on pens
Hellenic 2, Jomo Cosmos 1

Quarter-finals

Kaizer Chiefs v Umtata Bucks
Mamelodi Sundowns v Bloemfontein Celtic
Lightbody's Santos v Amazulu
Hellenic v Cape Town Spurs.

● ON the international front, the 3-1 Nations Cup defeat of Mauritius was notable for debut goals by Brandon Augustin (Umtata Bucks) and Pitso Mosimane, home from his Greek club, Ionikos.

NSL CASTLE LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Moroka Swallows	24	13	7	4	28	18	33
Mamelodi Sun.	22	12	4	6	35	18	28
Kaizer Chiefs	20	12	3	5	28	17	27
Hellenic	22	8	10	4	34	25	26
Amazulu	22	10	6	6	29	25	26
Pretoria City	24	9	8	7	25	22	26
Umtata Bucks	22	8	9	5	27	24	25
Bloemfontein C	22	9	7	6	23	22	25
Orlando Pirates	20	9	6	5	27	21	24
Cape Town Spurs	24	7	10	7	25	21	24
Witbank Aces	24	9	6	9	32	33	24
Wits University	23	10	3	10	21	24	23
Chatsworth Ran	24	5	2	7	23	22	22
Vaal Professionals	23	7	7	9	25	26	21
Jomo Cosmos	24	7	6	11	23	30	20
Lightbodys Santos	24	5	9	10	19	26	19
D'Alberton Callies	21	6	6	9	18	29	18
Dynamos	21	4	9	8	22	24	17
QwaQwa Stars	24	3	10	11	17	24	16
Welkom Super E	23	1	5	17	16	49	7

AFRICAN TABLES

MAURITIUS
Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fire Brigade	20	17	2	1	71	14	36
Sunrise SC	20	15	2	3	83	16	32
Cadets Club	20	13	3	4	40	21	29
Roche Bois	20	10	6	4	35	22	26
Scouts Club	20	10	2	8	33	31	22
Curpipe Cosmos	20	6	4	10	25	33	16
Polar Star	20	5	5	10	26	45	15
Police	20	6	2	12	21	40	14
Fuel Youth	20	6	2	12	29	54	14
Maheburg Utd	20	3	4	13	25	51	10
Young Tigers	20	1	4	15	21	75	6

MOROCCO
Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wydad	30	16	10	4	51	28	72
Raja	30	9	16	5	26	14	64
RS Settat	30	8	18	4	23	23	64
Olympic	30	8	17	5	28	20	63
MC Oujda	30	10	12	8	24	23	62
Kawkab	30	11	10	9	23	23	62
Ittihad Tanger	30	11	9	10	21	20	61
RAF	30	7	17	6	18	17	61
HWS Agadir	30	7	16	7	30	27	60
OC Khouribga	30	10	10	10	26	24	60
FWS Rabat	30	8	14	8	24	23	60
MAS Fes	30	8	13	9	26	23	59
Kenitra AC	30	8	13	9	25	25	59
Rachad Bernoussi	30	7	12	11	20	30	56
El Jadida	30	7	11	12	20	31	55
Raja Beni Mellal	30	2	8	20	17	51	42

TUNISIA
Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Esperance	26	18	7	1	43	15	43
JS Kairouan	26	13	6	7	34	27	32
CA Bizerte	26	10	7	9	34	30	27
CS Hammam-Lif	26	10	6	10	26	24	26
Club Africain	26	7	1	8	27	26	25
Olympique Beja	26	8	8	10	30	29	24
OC Kerkennah	26	9	6	11	31	33	24
CS Sfax	26	8	8	10	29	32	24
AS Marsa	26	8	8	10	25	29	24
Etoile Sabel	26	9	6	11	30	32	24
US Monastir	26	8	8	10	21	33	24
Stade Tunisien	26	7	9	10	28	29	23
Sfax Railways	26	8	7	11	29	30	23
AS Kasserine	26	7	7	12	21	38	23

CAMEROON

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Racing Bafoussam	15	10	3	2	23	6	23
Unisport Bafang	15	7	7	1	19	10	21
Union Douala	15	5	8	2	13	9	18
Prevoyance	15	4	10	1	11	7	18
Tonnerre	15	6	3	6	21	16	15
Vautour Dschang	15	4	7	4	18	14	15
Panthers	15	5	5	5	8	8	15
Canon Yaounde	15	4	7	4	16	17	15
Caiman Douala	15	5	5	5	16	19	15
Aigle Nkama	15	4	6	5	14	17	14
PWD Kumba	15	5	4	6	12	15	14
Leopard Douala	15	5	3	7	14	15	13
US Abong-Mbang	15	5	3	7	12	15	13
Tiko United	15	3	5	7	10	17	13
Maiscam Ngdere	15	4	2	9	8	19	10
Colombe Sglima	15	1	6	8	12	23	8

MOZAMBIQUE
South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Matchedje	17	12	3	2	31	9	27
Costa do Sol	16	12	2	2	32	7	26
Ferroviario	16	10	4	2	35	12	24
Desp. Maputo	17	10	4	3	41	12	24
Clube Gaza	17	7	8	2	22	9	22
Maxaquene	16	7	7	2	27	7	21
Ferroviario Gaza	16	7	1	8	18	28	15
Aquia Douro	16	4	5	6	11	17	13
Conseng	17	4	4	9	18	17	12
Desp. de Gaza	16	2	2	12	13	55	6
Cometal/Momental	17	0	3	15	6	33	3
Ferro Inhambane	16	1	1	14	5	45	3

Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Textafrica	10	6	3	1	13	3	15
Chingale	10	4	4	2	10	3	12
Carbomo Moatize	9	2	7	0	3	1	11
Palmeiras Beira	10	5	1	4	9	10	11
Ferroviario Beira	9	2	5	2	4	7	9
Estrela Quelimane	8	1	3	4	7	9	5
Estrela Chimoio	8	0	1	7	3	13	1

North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Desp. de Pemba	10	5	4	1	9	3	15
Namutequeliua	10	4	5	1	10	6	13
Ferro Nampula	10	4	4	1	11	12	12
Ferro Pemba	10	4	2	4	13	10	10
Ferro Nacala	10	2	4	4	9	11	9
Estrela Pemba	10	0	3	7	5	15	3

BARRY BAKER examines the situation in the new South Africa

Limited talent but unlimited potential

ONE year on from being readmitted to FIFA, South African club soccer looks poised to become the most attractive, cosmopolitan and competitive on the continent.

The international team have found life tough against nations able to recall their star players from Europe, for the World Cup and African Nations Cup qualifiers, but clubs have acquitted themselves well.

Kaizer Chiefs and Hellenic were beaten only on away goals in the Champions Cup, and Jomo Cosmos were comfortably through to the quarter-finals of the Cup-winners Cup.

Players are no longer in fear of losing FIFA recognition, and are now interested in pursuing financially attractive careers in the south of the continent, as an alternative to Europe.

In the past, only players in the twilight of their careers forfeited international caps in favouring of earning rand.

Nowadays, it is not just players from the neighbouring southern states trying their luck. Players from Zaire), Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria, feature in the NSL.

Until the recent air crash, three of the Zambian squad played with Dynamos.

Sponsorship of competitions, professional and amateur, at national and provincial level, is widely available, plus for individual clubs and youth/colts soccer, on a scale similar to that now familiar in Europe and South America.

Soccer ranks only fourth in South Africa's sports sponsorship league domestically, but the potential is therefore enormous.

The general administration of the game, however, has a long way to go.

Coaching . . . Manchester United's Ryan Giggs gives some tips to youngsters in Soweto.

The South African FA, formed through amalgamation of other governing bodies in time to gain re-entry to FIFA, have made giant strides, but the NSL, the professional First Division, has been dogged by problems, some involving fraudulent behaviour by officials now serving time in prison.

One condition of re-entry was that there should be only one recognised national league. This still has to be fulfilled.

The NSL, formed in 1985 by the elite clubs as a breakaway from the National Professional Soccer League, amalgamated — but in reality absorbed — the mainly Asian ethnic origin Federated Professional League in 1990.

Ashwin Trikamjee, former FPC president, has subsequently inherited the NSL presidency and the last FPL champions, Lightbodys Santos of Cape Town, have become a strong mid-table NSL team.

The NSL break from the NPSL left many scars and despite many negotiation attempts, a way of accommodating the executives and clubs in the NPSL into the NSL still has to be found.

The NPSL attract little media coverage, crowd support and sponsorship, and clubs would find life very hard in the NSL. Yet the NPSL initially demanded ten places in the already crowded NSL.

Similar problems exist at the amateur Regional Third Division level.

For the good of the national game, a satisfactory solution to the impasse must be found. This may lead to a broadening of the existing professional/semi-professional league structure.

The NSL have a 20-club First Division, which they are seeking to reduce, and two Second Divisions, known by the OK Stores sponsorship title — the "O"stream of inland-based clubs and "K" stream for coastal clubs, stretching from Durban, through

The boys in the rand band

PLAYERS in the South African international squad are:

Mark ANDERSON.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 31 (born June 29, 1962).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
The 1986 Player of the NSL after signing from Pretoria Callies. Over 270 appearances in goal for Sundowns. Played in first six internationals before losing place after dispute with SAFA.

Andre ARENDSE.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 26 (born June 27, 1967).
Cape Town Spurs.
Regular squad reserve and in third season with Spurs. Signed from Cape amateurs, Vasco De Gama. No Caps.

Steve CROWLEY
Goalkeeper.
Aged 30 (born May 12, 1963).
Wits University.
Six Caps, and had a clean sheet until Zimbabwe's 80th-minute equaliser in last match. An accountant previously with Pretoria University and Arcadia.

Rogerio DE SA
Goalkeeper.
Aged 28 (born October 2, 1964).
Moroka Swallows.
Son of a former Sporting Lisbon keeper and has forced himself ahead of Arendse in the squad, although not yet capped. Started at Benoni United.

Mark FISH
Defender.
Aged 19 (born March 14, 1974).
Jomo Cosmos.
Tall striker with Benoni Northerns and Arcadia Shepherds, converted by Cosmos into an outstanding central defensive prospect.

Sam KAMBULE
Defender.
Aged 28 (born June 27, 1965).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
Signed 1986 from Pretoria Callies, powerful defender with over 300 NSL apperances. NSL player of 1988, eight caps, one goal.

Steve KOMPHELA
Defender.
Aged 26 (born July 1, 1967).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Gave Yeoman service to Qwa Qwa Stars after signing from Klersdorp City. Moved this season to Chiefs. Outstanding central defender. Captain, with 12 caps.

Roger LINKS
Defender.
Aged 29 (born October 4, 1963).
Cape Town Spurs.
NSL Rookie of 1982. Made his reputation with Second Division club Battswood. Joined Spurs and made rapid progress to national team. Four caps, but recently hindered by injury.

Joas MACOLEGO
Defender.
Aged 21 (born October 13, 1971).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
Joined Sundowns from West Ham Invaders. One for the future. No caps.

Sizwe MOTAUNG
Defender.
Aged 23 (born January 7, 1970).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
Ever-present since going on as substitute in third game against Cameroon. Signed from Jomo Cosmos, having started at Natal club, Leeds. Ten caps.

David NYATHI
Defender.
Aged 24 (born March 22, 1969).
Cape Town Spurs.
Diminutive, attacking left-back, first came to notice with NPSL club Oriental Spurs. Outstanding 1991 season with Dangerous Darkies, snapped up by Orlando Pirates in 1992. Had trials with Chelsea.

Lucas RADEBE
Defender.
Aged 24 (born April 12, 1969).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Classy central defender, hampered early in the season with injury. From Bophuthatswana's ICL Birds Utd, where he started as a keeper. 9 caps.

Rudolph SEALE
Defender.
Aged 26 (born October 29, 1966).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Consistent full-back, signed from Blackpool. Four caps, one goal.

"Doctor" KHUMALO
Midfielder.
Aged 26 (born June 26, 1967).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Son of a former player and Chiefs coach. Interests clubs in South America and Europe and likely to move abroad soon. Ten caps, one goals. Current NSL Player of the Year.

Donald KHUSE
Midfielder.
Aged 29 (born September 8, 1963).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Industrious playmaker and recent trialist with Argentinian club San Lorenzo. Has scored at rate of one in every three games during nine-season NSL career with Orlando Pirates, Mamelodi Sundowns and Chiefs, but no goals in 12 internationals.

Harold LEGODI
Midfielder.
Aged 31 (born May 4, 1962).
D'Alberton Callies.
Formerly with Witbank Aces, Bush Bucks and Mamelodi Sundowns, nicknamed "Jazzy Queen". Scored winner, three minutes from time, for World Cup win over Congo. Four caps.

Aubrey LEKWANE
Midfielder.
Aged 24 (born February

Port Elizabeth on to Cape Town.

A blend of South American and European styles, technique and tactics is a feature of the South African scene, allied to natural athleticism and showmanship.

Financially lucrative tours to this climatically attractive former part of the British Empire are now common.

This will provide experience, to combine with the natural abilities of the home-based players.

Arsenal, Crystal Palace and Manchester United are among the teams to visit the Republic in recent months.

There are many familiar personalties coaching in South Africa, headed by national team manager Augusto Palacios, a former Peruvian midfielder.

West Ham, Palace and England forward Johnny Byrne is in charge of Cape Town Hellenic, with sons Mark in defence and David in attack.

Long-serving Southampton and England winner Terry Paine manages Johannesburg's Wits University and the SAFA national women's team, while Mitch D'Avray, who had many years at Ipswich Town, coaches Moroka Swallows.

Gary Bailey, George Eastham, Alex Forbes, Mike Kenning, Eddie Lewis, Mick Lill, Frank Lord and Colin Viljoen are other former English League favourites, together with players of lesser pedigree, now highly respected coaches, such as Billy Anderson, Jeff Butler, Joe Frickleton, Geoff Hudson, David Jones, Stan Lapot, Roy Matthews and Dave Roberts.

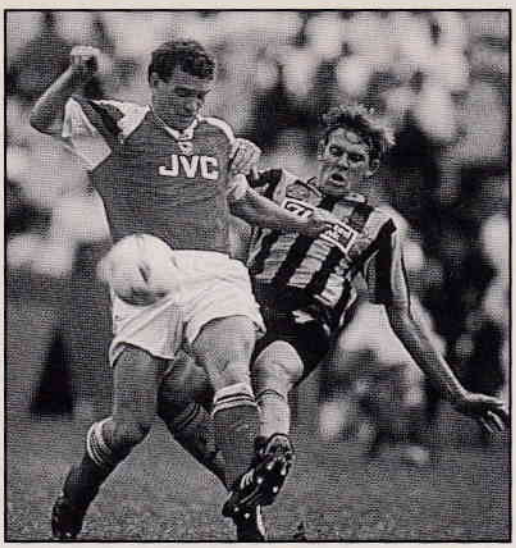
Brazilians Walter Da Silva and Wander Moreira, Austrian Walter Rautmann and Romanian Ted Dumitriu all enrich and widen the horizons of the players, together with coaches from other African states.

The home-bred players, plus African imports, mixed with a sprinkling of British and South Americans, could provide a blend — properly administered and ably coached — to attract the whites-audience television networks. Currently, 21 per cent of NSL registered players are whites, in what is considered to be the national sport of the blacks.

Keeping the best players in the NSL will be a critical factor in the development.

Despite many of the current national players travelling for trials with European and South American clubs, few have so far made permanent moves.

A stable political environment and enhanced home competition, with appropriate financial rewards, may well dissuade players from seeking the limelight overseas.



Visiting . . . Kaiser Chiefs v Arsenal in Johannesburg.

From Britain to Bosnia

FOREIGN players registered with South African NSL clubs at the start of the season were:

AMAZULU *(Durban)*: Shadrack Biemba (Zam), Collett Dube (Zim), Tom McKenna (Sco), Ephraim Mwale (Zim), Mlamule Zwane (Swa).

BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC: William Chiddola (Zim), Cornelius Mjombo (Zam), Japhet Mparutsa (Zim), Shepherd Murape (Zim, coach), Jones Ngulube (Zam), Friday Williams (Lib).

CAPE TOWN SPURS: Manuel Aguilar (Arg), Billy Anderson (Sco, coach), Ademir Bigu Chaga (Bra), Manu Janssens (Bel), Danilo Leal (Bra), Roger Lupiya (Zam), Otair Pio Nogueira (Bra).

CHATSWORTH RANGERS *(Durban)*: Gerson Arroe (Peru), Ricardo Cano (Peru), Tenant Chambo (Zam).

D'ALBERTON CALLIES *(Durban)*: Gordon Ingesund (Eng), Richard Sibeko (Gha).

DYNAMOS *(Johannesburg)*: Alex Forbes (Sco, coach), Peter Gallagher (Eng), Jonathon Mnisi (Zam), Abel Mwelesho (Zam, coach), Lawrence Ways (Zaire).

HELLENIC *(Cape Town)*: David Byrne (Eng), Johnny Byrne (Eng, coach), Mark Byrne (Eng, coach), Gareth Howells (Eng).

JOMO COSMOS *(Johannesburg)*: Freddie Banda (Zam, coach), Henry Gondwe (Malawi), Andre Kona'ngole (Zaire), Henry Malamobo (Zam), Roy Matthews (Eng, coach), Chris Mwakapuki (Zam), Kabinde Nyadi (Zaire), Willy Ndeya-Kalanga (Zaire), Mubaiya Bulalenga (Zaire).

KAIZER CHIEFS *(Johannesburg)*: Etshele Botende (Zaire), Albert Bwalya (Zam), Richard Cikanyika (Zam), Ronnie Dube (Swa), Geoff Hudson (Eng, coach).

LIGHTBODYS SANTOS *(Cape Town)*: None.

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS *(Pretoria)*: Nelson Bandura (Zam), Jeff Butler (Eng, coach), Lovemore Chafunya (Mal), Ernest Chirwali (Mal), Chance Gondwe (Mal), Alexander Maseko (Zim), Cedrik Nakhumwa (Mal).

MOROKA SWALLOWS *(Johannesburg)*: Abel Shongwe (Swa).

ORLANDO PIRATES *(Johannesburg)*: Tomiso Diakolo (Zaire), Walter Da Silva (Bra, coach), Kalonda Kampala (Zaire), Mike Mhlanga (Moz), Diego Monarriz (Arg), Osvaldo Nartallo (Arg), William Shongwe (Swa), Etienne Nsundi Mvumbi (Zaire), Ivo Simunic (Bos).

PRETORIA CITY: Alan Collcott (Zam), Stan Lapot (Eng, coach).

QWAQWA STARS (Qwa Qwa): Lucky Chungu (Zam), Kenneth Ike (Nigeria), Osnildo Kistner (Bra), Dialo Mambo (Zaire), William Mbhele (Mal), Williams Okpara (Nig), Ronald Mkhandawire (Zam, coach), Themba Sithole (Moz).

UMTATA BUCKS: John Mbidza (Zim), Sasa Mulenga (Zam), Thabo Ndefubule (Zaire), Rene Nemetcha (Cam), Bizwell Phiri (Zam, coach).

VAAL PROFESSIONALS *(Sebokeng)*: Jowa (Zimb).

WELKOM REAL EAGLES: Edgar Da Silva (Bra), Kenneth Malunga (Mal).

WITBANK ACES: None.

WITS UNIVERSITY (Johannesburg): Luke Chadwick (Eng), John Latham (Eng, coach), Terry Paine (Eng, coach), Kevin Rafferty (Eng), Michael Rowbotham (Eng), Absolum Thindwa (Swa).

11, 1969).
Orlando Pirates.
Signed from Pretoria Helicopters, debut for Pirates in 1991, and having an outstanding club season. No caps.

Thomas MADIGAGE
Midfielder.
Aged 22 (born November 14, 1970).
Jomo Cosmos.
South Africa schools star when with Arcadia, joined Cosmos for first time in 1987. Transferred to Zurich in Switzerland in 1991, but after prolonged injury returned to Cosmos. Five caps, one goal.

Augustine MAKALAKALANE
Midfielder.
FC Zurich (FC Baden on loan).
Scored 72 goals in one NPSL season with Vaal Professionals before joining Jomo Cosmos. Transferred to Zurich in 1991 but restricted in appearances by foreigners rule. Currently at odds with national coach Palacios. Six caps.

Bennett MASINGA
Midfielder.
Aged 28 (born January 13, 1965).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
Started at Stillfontein, signed from Klerksdopr City in 1987 and nearing 100 NSL goals, including 33 in 1990. One goal from five internationals.

Innocent MNCWANGO
Midfielder.
Aged 25 (born July 3, 1968).
Jomo Cosmos.
Arrived at Cosmos in 1990, via Natal's Jakes Autolet, Chippas Dynamos and Leeds. National debut in home win over Congo. Two further caps.

Tehobo MOLOI
Midfielder.
Aged 25 (born July 2, 1968).
Orlando Pirates.
Son of former Pirates favourite Percy "Chippa" Moloi. Debut in last match against Zimbabwe, as a substitute.

John MOSHEOU
Midfielder.
Aged 27 (born December 18, 1965).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Exciting player whose displays against Botswana and Nigeria, alerted scouts worldwide. Three caps, one goal.

Zane MOOSA
Midfielder.
Aged 24 (born September 23, 1968).
D'Alberton Callies.
NSL Player of 1990 and expected to be an international star, but it has not happened. Had overseas experience with Ionikos (Greece) and Young Boys (Switzerland). Only one cap.

Mike ROWBOTHAM
Midfielder.
Aged 27 (born September 2, 1965).
Wits University.
Born in England, started with Grimsby. In eight seasons at Wits has over 250 NSL appearances, plus two caps.

Neil TOVEY
Midfielder.
Aged 31 (born July 2, 1962).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Younger brother of NSL journeyman Mark Tovey. First national team captain, lost job through off-field discipline reasons. Nine caps.

Duncan CROWIE
Forward.
Aged 30 (born June 26, 1963).
Lightbody's Santos.
The outstanding player from the former FPL and regular top scorer. Past his best, and now player-coach at Santos, where brother Desmond also plays. One cap.

George DEARNALEY
Forward.
Aged 24 (born February 23, 1969).
Amazulu.
Old-fashioned English-style forward, who topped the NSL goals chart last season with 23 in 38 appearances. Played with Oldham Athletic and at the University of Richmond (United States). 3 caps.

Shane MacGREGOR
Forward.
Aged 29 (born December 5, 1963).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Signed from Johannesburg Rangers in 1988. Former NSL top scorer and player of the year, with 164 goals in 328 games before the start of this season, but only capped once.

Fani MADIDA
Forward.
Aged 26 (born December 7, 1966).
Besitkas (Turkey).
Started with Madedeni Dynamos, before Chiefs and a loan spell at Highlands Park. On return to Chiefs became top scorer in 1991, seven caps.

Albert MAHLUNGHU
Forward.
Aged 35 (born May 5, 1958).
Orlando Pirates.
Darling of the Pirates fans, affectionatley known as Hot Shoes. Signed from Mamelodi Sundowns in 1988. One cap.

Philemon MASINGA
Forward.
Aged 24 (born June 28, 1969).
Mamelodi Sundowns.
Potentially the national team's star scorer, naturally very gifted. Injury and dispute between his previous club, Jomo Cosmos, and Sundowns, have hampered his career. Six caps, two goals. Cousin of Bennett Masinga.

Calvin PETERSEN
Forward.
Aged 32 (born November 15, 1961).
D'Alberton Callies.
Regular scorer during nearly 300 NSL appearances with Buck Bucks and Moroka Swallows. Also played for Pietermaritzburg United and Eisenstadt (Austria). One cap.

Eric SEPTEMBER.
Forward.
Aged 27 (born August 12, 1966).
Kaizer Chiefs.
Bought from Mamelodi Sundowns to replace Madida. Scored on average once every other game during seven seasons in the NSL. Also played for Jomo Cosmos and Dynamos. 2 caps.

Mark WILLIAMS
Forward.
Aged 27 (born August 11, 1966).
Hellenic.
Only player from this Greek-owned club to receive a national call. Top NSL scorer in 1989. Had spells at Jomo Cosmos and Mamelodi Sundowns. Three caps.

19 MONDAY, JULY

ARGENTINA: Racing's World Cup defender Nestor Ariel Fabbri flies to England for a trial with First Division Birmingham.

FRANCE: The Federation criticise FIFA for precipitate comments on the Marseille affaire before juidicial inquiries have been concluded.

JAPAN: Yomiuri Verdy lose 2-1 to visiting Aston Villa in a friendly indoors but on real turf in the Tokyo Dome. A 50,000 crowd watches the game.

SPAIN: Barcelona report their operating profit down last season by 60 per cent to £700,000.

20 TUESDAY, JULY

UNITED STATES: The Atlanta Olympic organisers narrow down their soccer tournament venues to a short-list of six: Birmingham, Alabama; Boston; Dallas; Miami and Orlando; and Washington DC. Rejected are Charlotte and Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Memphis, Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tennessee; Jacksonville, Florida; Columbus, Ohio; and Kansas City, Montana.

21 WEDNESDAY, JULY

ACTION: The United States beat Costa Rica 1-0 in the semi-final of the CONCACAF Gold Cup in Dallas . . . Australia secure the first win of their European trip, winning 1-0 against Dutch side NEC Nijmegen.

FRANCE: Marseille official Jean-Pierre Bernes maintains his innocence of any culpability in the Marseille scandal as he confronts the players and wives accusing him at a formal court hearing before an investigating judge.

ITALY: The FIGC dismiss allegations that Sicilian club Acireale tried to fix matches last season, and confirm their promotion to Serie B in place of scandal-hit Perugia . . . Paola Ziliani, former Napoli defender now back with relegated Brescia, is reported to have tested positive for cocaine. Ziliani denies the reports, saying: "I'm fit as a fiddle, I've never taken drugs." . . . *Tele2* confirm a break through the history barrier in the new season by screening one League match live each Sunday night.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter says that reports he had threatened Marseille with expulsion from European competition were unfounded; his words had been misinterpreted. Blatter also says that he never meant to criticise the French Federation for being slow to act; he had merely said the Polish Federation had acted more quickly in dealing with their own match-fixing problem.

UKRAINE: Kiev Dynamo, responding to a petition from the players, dismiss chief executive Viktor Bezverikhy, accusing him of bringing the club to brink of bankruptcy through transfer market mismanagement.

22 THURSDAY, JULY

ACTION: Mexico thrash Jamaica 6-1 in the second semi-final of the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

BELGIUM: Plans are finally announced to renovate the Heysel stadium with an initial grant of £8million from the Belgian government and more to follow from the Football Federation.

BRAZIL: National manager Carlos Alberto Parreira calls up Bordeaux full-back Antonio Carlos to plug the defensive gaps left in his World Cup squad by injuries to Ricardo Gomes and Ricardo Rocha.

BULGARIA: CSKA Sofia sell international defender Kiril Metkov to Gamba Osaka of the J.League.

FRANCE: Marseille general manager Jean-Pierre Bernes is released from custody and flown to Bernard Tapie's yacht, where Tapie throws a camera belonging to a pursuing television crew into the Mediterranean.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA, ruling on Lyngby's complaint that Lyon have paid next to nothing for the transfer of Denmark striker Torben Frank, fine the French club £20,000, order immediate payment of the outstanding £330,000 and instruct the French Federation to relegate Lyon.

23 FRIDAY, JULY

BOLIVIA: State President Jaime Paz Zamora joins the national team preparing for the World Cup tie against Brazil.

ENGLAND: Walsall give a trial to Bermuda international forward Kyle Lightbourne.

FRANCE: Lyon pay the due transfer fee owed to Lyngby for Torben Frank, to earn the lifting of the threat of relegation . . . in the opening match of the new French season Nantes win 1-0 at home to Monaco . . . state prosecutor Eric de Montgolfier, in charge of the Marseille case, promises he will keep going "until we get to the bottom of this."

ROMANIA: Mircea Radulescu quits as coach of UEFA Cup contenders Rapid Bucharest in protest at the directors' failure to buy new players as promised.

24 SATURDAY, JULY

ACTION: Rachid Yekini (right) scores a hat-trick as Nigeria beat Ethiopia 6-0 in an African Nations' qualifier.

COLOMBIA: Felipe Perez, of the minor Envigado club, is arrested after rifles, ammunition and explosive for use by terrorist gangs are found in his apartment.

FRANCE: Marseille open the new season with a 1-0 home win over Lens thanks to a goal from Basile Boli. Before the game general manager Jean-Pierre Bernes (above) undertakes a "lap of honour", blowing kisses to the cheering fans.

HOLLAND: Ghanaian international Nii Lamptey scores both goals for PSV Eindhoven, with whom he is on trial, in a 2-2 draw with Antwerp in a pre-season friendly.

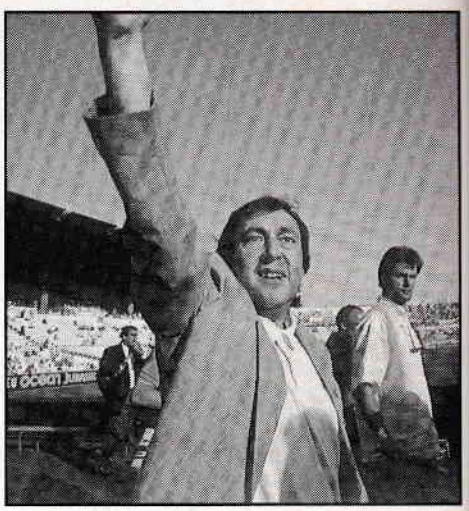
JAPAN: Yokohama Marinos beat Yomiuri Verdy 3-0 on the opening day of the second half of the J.League season.

25 SUNDAY, JULY

ACTION: History is made in the World Cup as Brazil lose a qualifying match for the first time, going down 2-0 against Bolivia in La Paz . . . Uruguay win 1-0 in Venezuela . . . Mexico win the CONCACAF Gold Cup, beating the United States 4-0 in Mexico City . . . England win the UEFA Under-18 title, defeating holders Turkey 1-0 at Nottingham Forest's City Ground with an 80th-minute penalty . . . the African Nations' qualifiers bring victories for South Africa, Algeria, Gabon, Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco, Mali and Zaire. Zambia qualify for the finals thanks to a 1-1 draw away to Zimbabwe.

FRANCE: Jean-Pierre Bernes resigns as general manager of Marseille so the club "will not be held hostage" by the enemies of president of Bernard Tapie.

SOUTH AFRICA: Manchester United's veteran skipper Bryan Robson is sent off dissent in a 2-0 win over Arsenal at Ellis Park, Johannesburg.



26 MONDAY, JULY

AUSTRALIA: Tony Carbone, top player at the World Youth Cup, quits Perth Italia for England's Nottingham Forest at a fee of £90,000.

BRAZIL: The disgraced World Cup squad return home to a barrage of criticism in the media and insults from fans at Rio airport. Assistant coach Mario Zagalo is restrained by officials after a taxi driver shouts insults at manager Carlos Alberto Parreira.

FRANCE: Marseille president Bernard Tapie, in an interview published in *Liberation,* rejects claims by ex-Valenciennes coach Boro Primorac that he had personally encouraged Primorac to take the blame for the scandal. Tapie says: "You can believe I'm a gangster if you like, but I'm not stupid."

HOLLAND: Ajax buy Peter Van Vossen from Anderlecht, who are also poised to sell Ghanaian Nii Lamptey to PSV Eindhoven.

27 TUESDAY, JULY

ENGLAND: Australian World Cup goalkeeper Mark Bosnich decides to stay in England to defend his first-team place with Aston Villa rather than help his country in the World Cup showdown with Canada.

FRANCE: The French Federation censure Marseille for barring camera teams of four TV channels from Saturday's match against Lens. President Bernard Tapie responds that none of the stations had any contract to cover Marseille matches.

HOLLAND: Ajax clinch the return of Frank Rijkaard from Milan on a two-year contract.

TURKEY: Altay Izmir snap up Australia striker Dave Mitchell from English Premier League Swindon for a mere £20,000.

28 WEDNESDAY, JULY

ACTION: France beat Russia 3-1 in Caen.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich, confident in the potential of Adolfo Valencia, sell experienced striker Roland Wohlfarth to Saint Etienne.

JAPAN: Yomiuri Verdy's Dutch defender Eugene Hanssen has his contract cancelled by mutual agreement because he is homesick.

SOUTH AFRICA: Nelson Mandela is present to see Kaizer Chiefs draw 1-1 with Manchester United and Orlando Pirates lose only 1-0 to Arsenal at the FNB Stadium near Soweto.

SPAIN: Real Madrid spring a transfer market coup, claiming the capture of Peter Dubovsky from Slovan Bratislava.

SWITZERLAND: Aarau open their title defence by defeating Grasshopper 2-1.

UNITED STATES: The USSF announce an ambitious programme of 15 friendlies against mainly European opposition in the World Cup run-up, then has to admit that some of the fixture dates have yet to be agreed with their prospective opponents.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

AUSTRALIA: Federation officials apply to FIFA for the temporary suspension of goalkeeper Mark Bosnich who had decided to miss the World Cup play-off ties against Canada for fear of losing his place with English club Aston Villa.

BRAZIL: Carlos Alberto Parreira drops six of the Brazilian starting line-up beaten by Bolivia for the next World Cup tie, in Venezuela on Sunday.

SCOTLAND: Rangers chairman David Murray promises to ban any fans found to have been among hooligans who ran amok in Sunderland the previous day, before and after a testimonial match for Roker favourite Gary Bennett. Murray says Rangers may consider not playing further friendlies in England.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA shut the Dakar stadium for the next World Cup home match because of crowd trouble at the tie in which Senegal lost 3-1 at home to Morocco. Senegal must now play Zambia on August 7 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

ITALY: David Platt scores his first goal for Sampdoria in a 1-1 draw against Udinese in a pre-season friendly.

GERMANY: Austrian veteran Toni Polster signs and makes his debut in a pre-season friendly for Koln.

PORTUGAL: An extraordinary general meeting in Lisbon is told that Benfica are £11.2million in debt.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA suspend Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich for two matches concurrent with Australia's World Cup play-off against Canada from which he withdrew. Bosnich says he may consider legal action for "restraint of trade."

SATURDAY, JULY 31

ACTION: The Makita tournament launches the English season at White Hart Lane with Spurs beating Lazio 3-2 and Chelsea defeating Ajax on penalties after a 1-1 draw.

HOLLAND: Feyenoord beat Barcelona 4-2 in a Rotterdam friendly.

ITALY: Juventus president Giampiero Boniperti attacks the live TV deal, predicting "it will mean the end of Calcio as we know it."

SPAIN: The dispute over the transfer of Partizan Belgrade midfielder Jokanovic to Oviedo is referred to the FIFA/UEFA disputes panel.

OBITUARY

TONY BARTON, manager of the Aston Villa side who won the 1982 Champions Cup, dies aged 57. Barton was an outside-right with Fulham, Nottingham Forest and Portsmouth. Later he was assistant manager to Ron Saunders at Villa and succeeded his mentor in the middle of the victorious Champions Cup campaign. Barton, a real football man, was not charismatic enough for Villa and was dismissed less than two years later. He worked in the backrooms at Southampton and Portsmouth before quitting the game to work for a charity.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

ACTION: Brazil win at last in the World Cup qualifiers, 5-1 away to Venezuela. Argentina open with a 1-0 win in Peru thanks to the fine form of goalkeeper Goycochea. Colombia's Asprilla misses a penalty in a goalless draw against Paraguay while Uruguay are also held goalless, by Ecuador . . . Canada win only 2-1 at home to Australia in their play-off first leg . . . four players are sent off, two from either side, as Mexico lose 3-2 at home to Atletico Madrid . . . Chelsea thrash hosts Spurs 4-0 in the Makita Final; Ajax beat Lazio 2-0 for third place.

ENGLAND: Local tabloid newspapers go to war over Paul Gascoigne, one quoting an imminent book by his former commercial manager and minder that he is suffering from the eating disease bulimia. Gascoigne is reported, in another newspaper, as threatening to sue for libel.

GERMANY: Werder Bremen beat Bayer Leverkusen 7-6 on penalties after a 2-2 draw in the Super Cup.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

SWITZERLAND: FIFA announe that Bolivia defender Rimba and Brazil's reserve goalkeeper, Zetti, have both been temporarily suspended pending formal review for failing dope tests after the World Cup tie in La Paz on July 25. Traces of cocaine are reported to have been revealed though both players deny having taken anything stronger than coca tea.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

ACTION: Vasco da Gama beat Colo Colo 2-0 in the Comebol Cup despite having two players sent off.

BRAZIL: A new blow hits Brazil's World Cup effort as veteran striker Careca withdraws from the squad, blaming personal problems. Careca has been one of the most heavily criticised members of the team.

ITALY: Milan forward Gianluigi Lentini suffers severe bruising and a fractured eye socket when his Porsche crashes off a road in the early hours of the morning.

SCOTLAND: Ally McCoist's testmonial raises £500,000 at Ibrox. The only losers are his team, Rangers, who go down 2-1 to Newcastle in front of their own fans.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

BANGLADESH: More than 100 fans are hurt in clashes in Dhaka after the match of the season between Mohammedan Club and Abahoni is abandoned when Mohammedan walk off in protest at the awarding of a controversial goal to their rivals.

ENGLAND: Millwall celebrate the opening of their new stadium, the first new ground in London for 69 years, with a friendly against Sporting Lisbon. American John Kerr opens the scoring in the new stadium after 15 minutes but Sporting hit back to win 2-1.

FRANCE: Corsican restaurant owner Andre-Noel Philippeddu denies having introduced ex-Valenciennes coach Boro Primorac to Marseille president Bernard Tapie. This is in response to claims by Primorac that Philippeddu set up an interview in which Tapie tried to persuade Primorac to take the blame for the match-fix scandal.

ITALY: Milan's two-game home match ban is cut to one match on appeal. The ban followed crowd trouble at the match against Sampdoria in the Stadio Meazza at the end of last season. Sampdoria's own one-match ban is reduced to a £40,000 fine . . . doctors treating Gianluigi Lentini for his car crash injuries say he will make a full recovery but refuse to set a date for his return to soccer action.

MEXICO: America cancel the contract of Hugo Sanchez amid reports that the veteran World Cup striker is in Europe negotiating with Paris Saint-Germain. Sanchez had fallen out of favour with America for his leadership of the players' union in seeking freedom of contract.

TEAM of the MONTH

BOLIVIA . . .

for upsetting the status quo in the South American World Cup qualifying section.

BERND SCHUSTER . . .

for a spectacular return to the Bundesliga with Bayer Leverkusen.

THURSDAY, 5 AUGUST

ENGLAND: Ian Wright is fined £5,000 by the FA for a gesture to a linesman during the Cup Final replay in which Arsenal beat Sheffield Wednesday . . . Paul Gascoigne signs a three-year, £1million-a-year boots contract.

ITALY: Lazio buy Pierluigi Casiraghi from Juventus for £2million after Marseille refuse to sell them Croat striker Alen Boksic until next summer.

IVORY COAST: Frenchman Philippe Troussier is dismissed as national manager just one match away from a possible place in the World Cup finals.

URUGUAY: The World Cup squad are banned from drinking Bolivia's traditional coca tea when they visit La Paz in the World Cup qualifiers. This follows the dope test failures of Rimba and Zetti after the Bolivia v Brazil tie.

FRIDAY, 6 AUGUST

ENGLAND: The FA Carling Premiership sponsorship deal for the new season is formally launched in London on the eve of the official season-opening Charity Shield meeting between Arsenal and Manchester United at Wembley.

FRANCE: Justice sources reveal that Marseille president Bernard Tapie underwent a four-hour interrogation at his Paris offices the previous day in connection with an alleged attempt to deflect pressure in the match-fix scandal. Tapie's fingerprints were taken during the interview, at which Judge Bernard Beffy was accompanied by a 10-strong police escort.

GERMANY: Kaiserslautern's veteran defender Andy Brehme is ruled out for a month after achilles tendon surgery . . . Bayern Munich agree that defender Jorginho must commute to and from Brazil in the next few weeks to fulfil competitive commitments in both the Bundesliga and World Cup . . . the league season opens with victories for Hamburg (5-2 v Nurnberg), Dortmund (2-1 v Karlsruhe) and, most impressively, Eintracht Frankfurt (4-0 away to Borussia Monchengladbach).

HUNGARY: Istvan Kozma, discarded by Liverpool because he no longer qualified for a work permit, returns home to join Ujpest.

POLAND: Legia Warsaw defender Roman Zub is suspended for a year by the federation after testing positive for the hormone testosterone after the 2-1 win over Widzew Lodz in May. Zub had appeared in the match as a substitute.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA announce that Bolivia's Miguel Rimba and Brazil's Zetti have been cleared of dope suspicions after failing tests following the World Cup tie in La Paz. Tests proved that both players had tested positive for cocaine after drinking local coca leaf tea.

URUGUAY: Nacional say they have opened negotiations with Diego Maradona.

SATURDAY, 7 AUGUST

ACTION: Zambia move a step nearer the World Cup finals after a goalless draw in Senegal . . . Manchester United beat Arsenal 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the Charity Shield at Wembley . . . Nantes win 3-0 at Toulouse to go top in France; Marseille are held 1-1 at home by Le Havre . . . Adolfo Valencia scores two debut goals as Bayern Munich open their new German campaign with a 3-1 defeat of promoted Freiburg . . . Rangers open the new Scottish league season with a 2-1 win (below) against Hearts, despite missing seven injured first-teamers.

SUNDAY, 8 AUGUST

ACTION: In the World Cup South American Group A, Colombia win 1-0 in Peru and Argentina win 3-1 in Paraguay; in Group B, Bolivia maintain their momentum by defeating Uruguay 3-1 while Venezuela are thrashed again, this time 5-0 in Ecuador . . . Brazil are held 1-1 by Mexico in a friendly in Maceiro, provoking another outburst of fury against manager Carlos Alberto Parreira . . . FC Porto beat Cruzeiro 3-1 in the final of their own tournament in Oporto . . . Barcelona defeat Milan 3-0 in the final of the Ciudad de Oviedo pre-season event in Spain . . . German champions Werder Bremen thrash Stuttgart 5-1 with two goals from Andy Herzog . . . financially-embroiled Kiev Dynamo open the new Ukraine season with a 2-1 win over Karpaty Lvov.

MONDAY, 9 AUGUST

AUSTRALIA: Canada fly in to Sydney for the second leg of their World Cup qualifying play-off with coach Bobby Lenarduzzi insisting they would have to attack because sitting on the 2-1 lead would be "like playing Russian roulette."

ENGLAND: First Division Millwall sign US veteran Bruce Murray on a two-year contract, joining fellow Americans John Kerr and Kasey Keller.

WHAT'S ON

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
World Cup qualifiers, South America Group B: Uruguay v Bolivia, Venezuela v Ecuador.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
World Cup qualifiers, South America Group B: Brazil v Uruguay, Ecuador v Bolivia.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Estonia v Italy. **Group 2:** Norway v Poland, San Marino v Holland. **Group 3:** Albania v Spain.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
World Cup qualifier, Africa 2nd rnd Group A: Nigeria v Ivory Coast.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
World Cup qualifiers, Africa 2nd rnd Group B: Zambia v Senegal. **Group C:** Zimbabwe v Guinea.

OCTOBER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8
World Cup qualifier, Africa 2nd rnd Group A: Algeria v Nigeria.

global TRANSFERS

(Loan moves in italics)

Peter **ARTNER**	M	Admira Wacker	Austria Salzburg
Rui **BARROS**	M	Monaco	Marseille
Lee **CHAPMAN**	F	Leeds United	Portsmouth
Lajos **DETARI**	M	Ancona	Ferencvaros
Jostein **FLO**	F	Sogndal	Sheffield United
John **HARKES**	M	Sheffield Wednesday	Derby County
Jakob **KJELDBERG**	D	Silkeborg	Chelsea
Istvan **KOZMA**	F	Liverpool	Ujpest TE
*Nii **LAMPTEY***	*M*	*Anderlecht*	*PSV Eindhoven*
Ian **MARSHALL**	F	Oldham Ath	Ipswich Town
Luc **NIJHOLT**	D	Motherwell	Swindon Town
Hugo **PEREZ**	M	Al Ittihad (Saudi Arabia)	US Soccer
Hugo **SANCHEZ**	F	America (Mex)	Rayo Vallecano
Andy **SINTON**	F	QPR	Sheffield Wednesday
Graham **STUART**	F	Chelsea	Everton
Kubilay **TURKYILMAZ**	F	Bologna	Galatasaray
David **TUTTLE**	D	Tottenham	Sheffield United
Andreas **WEGENHAUS**	D	Dynamo Dresden	Fenerbahce
Guy **WHITTINGHAM**	F	Portsmouth	Aston Villa
Roland **WOHLFARTH**	F	Bayern Munich	St Etienne

BROOKING TALKBACK

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters. . .

Ally is still No. 1

SIR — I'm a loyal Rangers fan, but I'm not delighted about the signing of Duncan Ferguson. At £4 million he is not a short-term replacement for Ally McCoist.

When he regains full fitness Rangers will have to break up the most successful striking partnership in the game or play a 4-3-3 formation, completely changing their style.

Apart from that, paying such a sum for a player who has not proved anything and has only a couple of caps is ludicrous.

I hope I'm wrong, but I think this is money wasted.

— CHRIS LAW, 3 Conglass Lane, Tomintoul, Banffshire, Scotland.

● ***NOT surprisingly, it sounds as if Ally McCoist is your favourite Rangers player, and so you are perturbed whether the arrival of Duncan Ferguson may disrupt his flow of goals when he regains fitness.***

I'm sure manager Walter Smith is fully aware of the value of Ally to Rangers, but obviously feels Ferguson has tremendous potential and was willing to back his judgement with a massive fee. To speculate now about changing systems and style is far too early, and you must now be patient and reserve judgement.

Great Germans

SIR — The Germans always seem to get their team selection right, adding just one or two new faces and never losing balance.

As the US Cup '93 showed, they all have wonderful touch and pace, and go straight for goal. I don't think they get the credit they deserve from the media. Can anyone name a team to beat this all-time West German XI?

Maier, Breitner, Beckenbauer, Schuster, Schnellinger, Rummenigge, Matthaus, Netzer, Overath, Seeler, Klinsmann.

— P. DALEY, 7 South Albert Road, Liverpool 17 8TL, England.

● ***LIKE any truly great side, the Germans will always suffer more than most when they don't achieve those standards, because everyone expects them to be challenging for the major trophies continuously.***

I think they receive the credit they deserve, because skill and flair is forever encouraged in their players and you could never accuse them of being dour. Your all-time West German XI is impressive. Gerd Muller (left) would be in my side ahead of Klinsmann.

Heed this Asian call

Action from Japan.

SIR — Why don't FIFA classify some of the new countries formed from the former Soviet Union to play under Asia? This will certainly prove beneficial for the following reasons:

1: It would be a lot easier for these countries to qualify for the World Cup via Asia. That will then result in a higher overall standard in Asian football.

2: Asian club competitions should also improve. The different styles from the European teams might have a positive influence.

3: It will help solve the problem UEFA has with the great difference between the good and weak teams in Europe.

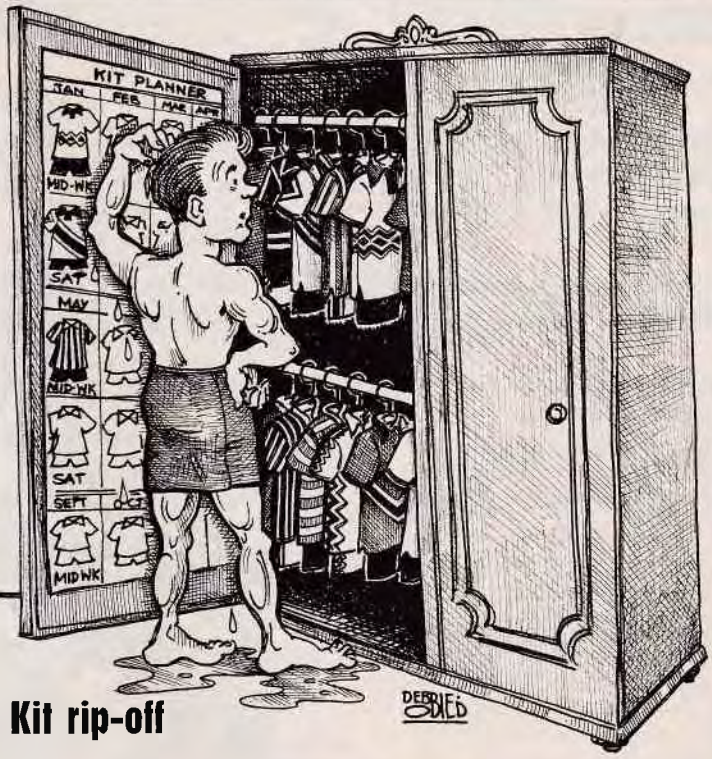
The football nations would be spread more evenly, preventing a possible European domination when it comes to voting on certain aspects.

— CARL GERBER, Endrag, Stellenbosch 7600, South Africa.

● ***CERTAINLY the significant increase in new countries is a problem, but your ideas would be open to protest from two main sources. Asian countries would be reluctant to accept such additional sides, as it would obviously reduce their own chances of qualifying. They would also argue that standards are already improving and could point to the recently-formed J.League in Japan as an example.***

European countries would understandably dispute why the smaller teams should be offered a seemingly easier route than others, and so it could lead to endless arguments about who should be playing where.

But I do accept this growing dilemma must be causing some anxiety for the future.



Kit rip-off

SIR — Many of the Premiership clubs again changed their kits for a new season. This is a disgraceful attempt to cash in by greedy clubs and firms.

It's bad enough that the home kits change, but the invention of unneeded away kits makes it even worse. The kits are so expensive anyway.

There should be no need to change a kit unless a sponsor alters. It is blatant exploitation.

— TREVOR FOX, Ballycashin, Butlerstown, Co. Waterford, Eire.

● ***I COULDN'T agree more. Clubs and sponsors would argue that the demand is there and so they are only filling that gap. But between £30 and £40 for a shirt is a hefty expense for anyone. This market is now very much into the fashion world, and the idea of actually wearing the shirt to play football in is almost the last consideration!***

Greek bankers

SIR — My thanks to *WORLD SOCCER* for the superb article on Greece in the July issue.

The Greeks have played some excellent football, and seem a sure bet for at least a quarter-final place in the World Cup.

The chances of a so-called middle order country winning the World Cup are better than ever. Do not discount Norway, Switzerland or Greece in the US in 1994.

— N. LAZANAKIS, Verwoerd Park, Alberton 1453, South Africa.

● ***I CAN understand your excitement at the prospects of watching Greece next summer, and it's good to see some different European countries enjoying an upsurge in fortunes.***

Whether any of those you mention could actually win the World Cup is pretty doubtful, but if they can maintain their form then it should provide a memorable tournament.

Keeper query

SIR — Don't you think that Nigel Martyn of Crystal Palace should take over as England's top goalkeeper? If not, why not David Seaman of Arsenal?

— TOBY DEWAR, MOD UK Air Team, Operation Jural, Saudi Arabia.

● ***THE England goalkeeping position was certainly open to speculation again following the indifferent spell suffered by Chris Woods at the end of last season.***

I would say David Seaman is ahead of Nigel Martyn and Tim Flowers is another serious contender.

Currently there isn't the obvious No. 1 that we enjoyed in the past with such as Peter Shilton.

Tell Trevor...

What you think about football's big issues. Now you don't even need to write a letter. Just pick up the phone

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- **Comments are Trevor Brooking's opinions and do not necessarily reflect *WORLD SOCCER'S* views. He will only answer those letters published.**

Calls cost 36p minute chaep rate and 48p minute at all other times.

Basically wrong

SIR — I question your enthusiasm for the stadia to be used for the 1994 World Cup in the US.

I noted with dismay the narrowness of the pitches at the US Cup '93, below FIFA's own 75-yard minimum for the internationals. This can only favour defensive football when it comes to the real thing.

What is the point of the Americans' hi-tec wizardry when they can't get the basics right?

— JOHN SOUTHCOTE, Tig Fald Road, Farnworth, Bolton, Lancashire.

● ***I ACCEPT your point on the width of pitches, and it was something noted on the trip in the summer. Certainly the better technical sides would appreciate some sort of extension, because it would definitely help them to perhaps find a little more space. The US organising committee have been quite responsive on other requests so I think it's important FIFA insist on the minimum width, but preferably where the space is available, make sure that the touchlines are taken that much wider.***

Money madness

SIR — With the recent transfer of Duncan Ferguson to Rangers for £4 million, and other big money moves such as Alan Shearer to Blackburn, don't you think that the British transfer market is getting more and more like the Italian and Spanish transfer markets, with clubs paying silly amounts?

I think the year will come when clubs will start paying in the £20 million range. Transfer records seem to keep getting higher and higher each summer.

— S. DENTON, Clarence Road, Horsham, West Sussex.

● ***THE transfer market is getting somewhat out of proportion now, although I don't believe you will see the British market reach the peaks of the Italian. A shortage of top quality talent is the reason.***

Unfortunately the biggest clubs will cream off the leading talent, and so league success must inevitably become a contest between this elite group.

More worrying for me is the wage explosion it has caused. Clubs are stretching themselves to the very limits when meeting these demands, and it is making the finished product a very expensive hobby for many supporters, during a period of recession.

That was the week that was . . . awful

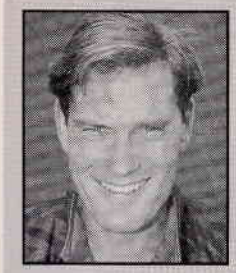
SIR — I hate the thought of sacking anyone but the England team need a new manager. I've never seen an England team lose to the likes of Norway and the US within a week.

I'd like to see Ron Atkinson or Terry Venables with that team, and I'd like to know why Carlton Palmer keeps on playing and we can't see Chris Waddle and Mark Hateley.

— CLIVE ROWE, Newton Cane Farms Ltd, Lacovia, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica W.I.

● ***THERE is no doubt Graham Taylor will go if England don't make it to the final stages. I still believe it is right to give him the chance to achieve that target and don't accept all the cries for his premature sacking.***

He had a contract; so give him the opportunity to complete his task. If he is unsuccessful, Gerry Francis, Kevin Keegan and Glenn Hoddle are possible challengers to your two very realistic suggestions. As far as players chosen, it is always a subject which results in a wide variation.


Glenn Hoddle

Gerry Francis

Kevin Keegan

Bravo Oslo!

SIR — I would like to comment on the generosity of the Norwegian Football Association who sent me a signed national team photo, simply because I wrote to them expressing interest in that country's football. I thought the best way of congratulating them was by sending a letter to *WORLD SOCCER*.

— JOSEPH MASLEN, Ella Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

● ***IT'S good to hear of such excellent examples of how public relations can plan an essential part in developing interest and support in different countries.***

I am not too surprised at the response from Norway.

Scandinavian countries make this a priority, and let's hope this sort of deserved recognition can encourage some of those less receptive Associations to improve the sort of service they provide.

PENPALS

MALE Celtic and England fan seeks penfriends in Scotland, England, US.
— Marcus Incoom Jnr, PO Box 742, Sunyani, Ghana.

KEEN supporter of Man. United wants penfriends.
— Silvester Moyo, Y. 32 Mzilikazi, OPO Mzilikazi, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

JUVENTUS, Arsenal and Rangers fan, 16, seeks penfriends worldwide.
— Suzanne M. Buckley, Ashvale, Meikle Wartle, Inverurie, Scotland.

WORLD SOCCER enthusiast seeking penfriends.
— Isaaku Mamudu, PO Box 1573, Sunyani BA, Ghana.

LIVERPOOL fan, male, seeks similar in other lands.
— Ndumiso Sikhosana, 1791 New Magwegwe, PO Magwegwe, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

SCOTTISH fan of Rangers, 18, seeks others in US, Africa and Europe.
— Robbie Davine, 18 Ben Hope Avenue, Hawkhead Estate, Paisley, Strathclyde, Scotland.

EXCHANGES

MEXICAN soccer items for exchange. Write English/Spanish.
— Sergio Najeran, Hacienda da Corlome No. 17, 14310 Mexico 22, DF, Mexico.

RED STAR supporter wants to exchange items with English, Italian, French, Spanish and Dutch fans.
— Valentin Maric, Mose Pijade 108/12, 26000 Panchevo, Yugoslavia.

FOR SALE

RED STAR v Man. United 1958 Champions' Cup programme.
— Valentin Marci, Mose Pijade 108/12, 26000 Panchevo, Yugoslavia.

AFRICAN club badges for sale, £2 each. Send for list.
— Dady Franks, Young Clubs Asscn, PO Box 825, Sunyan B/A, Ghana.

WANTED

YUGOSLAVIA shirt, L/XL 1990 or earlier, H/a.
— Jimmy McCarthy, Bain Place, Watten, Caithness KWI 5XG, Scotland.

VIDEO TAPE in any language of ALL GOALS scored by Barcelona in 1992-93.
— K. Farthing, 666a High Road, North Finchley, London N12 ONL, England.

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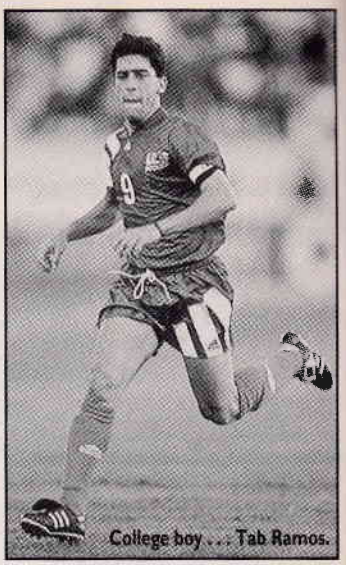
SHOOT

Out every Tuesday

Alan's double problem


College boy . . . Tab Ramos.

THERE is an idea in circulation that FIFA, in return for allowing the United States to host the 1994 World Cup have demanded that the Americans set up a professional league.

There are even hints of dreadful punishments if it doesn't happen — though what they could be remains a mystery.

None of this seems to worry Alan Rothenberg, the World Cup '94 boss.

"We're putting together a business plan, and the aim is to present it to FIFA at the time of the World Cup draw in December."

And if the plan isn't ready? "Listen," says Rothenberg with a smile. "We're working on it. But if we find that we really don't have enough to put before FIFA in December, then we'll tell them we're not ready.

"There's no fixed deadline, there's been no ultimatum from FIFA."

The first sign of action on the pro league came with Bill Sage's appointment in August to head the preparation of the business plan.

Sage has been Commissioner of the American Professional Soccer League for two years, and until the end of the APSL season this month, he will split his time between the APSL and the new pro league.

Sage, a lawyer, is a comparative newcomer to soccer, having begun his career as President of the Seattle Storm in 1986.

He was Chairman of the Western Soccer League, which eventually formed part of the APSL.

That Rothenberg is "pleased to welcome someone with Bill's experience" to the job cannot be doubted.

The comments from APSL owners praising the move were much less believable.

Good for pro soccer and for a stronger APSL, said Amancio Suarez of Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

But there are many who believe that Sage's defection will be a death blow to the already shaky APSL, now something of an embarrassment.

At present the APSL are all there is in the way of pro (although closer to semi-pro) soccer.

Inevitably, APSL are held up as the example of what pro soccer is all about.

The image it gives, of financially wobbly teams playing mediocre soccer in sub-standard stadiums is damaging to the sport. Rothenberg, in the past, has expressed considerable doubts about the APSL operation. In 1991 he said: "Obviously they have struggled and continue to struggle. They're not a major league in US terms."

In many ways, the disappearance of the APSL — something Rothenberg's hiring of Sage seems likely to accelerate — would greatly help the plans for a new league.

The minor league image would disappear. So, too, would the possibility of court cases (always a threatening feature of American pro sports activity) over territorial rights — i.e. the allocation of exclusive rights to run a pro soccer team in the major cities.

Another image problem is that almost half — three out of seven — of the APSL's teams are not American, but Canadian. This in a league that once claimed to be the breeding ground for future American national team players.

There is also the awkward, not-usually-mentioned fact that the APSL are living at the whim of the United States Soccer Federation, whose bye-laws state that any pro league must have at least six clubs, with the clear implication that those clubs should be American.

The matter was discussed at the beginning of this season by the USSF, which gave temporary permission for the APSL to operate with the Canadian clubs.

The obvious, immediate, problem for a pro league — openly admitted by Rothenberg — is the total absence of any suitable pro-standard, medium-sized soccer stadiums.

That is something for which a precise solution can be formulated: the rich new owners, whoever they may be, will have to build such stadiums, at a starting cost of around $30 million.

The problem of where the players are going to come from is not nearly so easy to solve.

Rothenberg admits that the style of soccer will have to be spectacular: "It's got to be an entertaining product. If not, we might as well pack it in now."

There is another problem here. For it is clear that the average American player is not capable of producing spectacular soccer.

College boy . . . Eric Wynalda.

Attendance at an average college game — which will feature average American players — will make that very clear. The games are likely to be unsubtle, straightforward contests, noticeably short of skill.

More to the point, the average American college game has great difficulty drawing more than a few hundred spectators. True, most of the USA's current group of home-grown players came up through the college ranks. But — like John Harkes, Tab Ramos and Eric Wynalda, for instance — they have had to move overseas to develop.

The gap between these players and the college players is enormous.

So any new pro league will be confronted with the anomaly that, while it professes to be the answer for American players, the best of them will still want to be playing overseas.

Because no league based on college players can provide a calibre of play that even comes close to First Division soccer in Europe.

If salaries are high enough, the exiles might consider returning, but the overall standard of play would not be dramatically improved.

When asked about the problem, Rothenberg adopts another approach, suggesting that exciting soccer can be obtained by fiddling with the rules.

He recalls the old North American Soccer League of the 1970s (in which he was an owner of Los Angeles Aztecs) and the various rule changes they tried to introduce to "Americanise" the sport.

They found that FIFA usually were opposed to the changes.

"Now, FIFA's attitude is a lot different," says Rothenberg.

"I think they'll embrace changes. Both in the field rules, and in things like altering the points structures, giving points for goals to encourage scoring."

A better long-term answer, of course, is to produce better players. One of the major problems lies within the USSF. The player development programme has fallen into the hands of coaches who are inflexibly wedded to an inevitably dull approach to the sport. Much theory, little flair.

PAUL GARDENER

86ers in front

VANCOUVER 86ers lost several key players, plus coach Bob Lenarduzzi and assistant coach Alan Errington to the World Cup team, but continue to lead the American Professional Soccer League.

Five other players were out with injuries when 86ers were beaten for the first time this season, by Toronto Blizzard.

With injured Canadian international John Catliff acting as interim coach, 86ers lost to a last-minute goal by Nigel Sparks. After a slow start Blizzard have climbed up and are within striking distance of Colorado Foxes and Los Angeles Salsa, who trail Vancouver.

The third Canadian team in the seven-team lead, Montreal Impact — coached by much-travelled veteran Eddie Firmani — are seven points behind Toronto.

One month remains in the regular season.

COLIN JOSE

AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE — *Results*

July 30: Vancouver 2 Montreal 1, Fort Lauderdale 3 Toronto 2.
July 31: Tampa Bay 2 Toronto 1.
Aug 1: Los Angeles 2 Colorado 1.
Aug 6: Montreal 0 Los Angeles 1, Vancouver 6 Fort Lauderdale 1.
Aug 8: Toronto 2 Los Angeles 1, Colorado 0 Fort Lauderdale 1.

Standings

	W	L	F	A	Pts
Vancouver 86ers	13	5	39	28	112
LA Salsa	11	5	30	23	86
Colorado Foxes	10	6	23	19	79
Toronto Blizzard	7	13	28	37	72
Montreal Impact	8	8	24	21	70
Tampa Bay Rowdies	6	11	33	37	67
Fort Lauderdale Strikers	6	13	31	43	67

● *6 points for a win in regulation or overtime; 4pts for a shoot-out win, 2pts for a shoot-out loss; 1pt for each goal scored in regulation, up to a maximum of three.*

Bismarck adds a touch of iron

JAPAN

THREE of the J.League clubs, Verdy, JEF and Gamba, have turned their fortunes around with immediate dividends from recent big-name signings.

But Zico's Kashima Antlers, easy winners of the first stage, were in the bottom half with four defeats from their first six games in the second stage.

Verdy started disastrously with a 3-0 defeat to Yokohama Marinos, but Bismarck (below), their new signing from Vasco da Gama, came in from the second match and Verdy won five in a row.

Bismarck's quick, incisive passing allowed Kazuyoshi Miura to move forward and join Takeda Nebuhiro in attack. Miura responded with a goal a game for five consecutive matches.

All this is good news for a Verdy

side badly troubled by internal discord in the first stage, and especially for 36-year-old manager Yasutaro Matsuki. Verdy had sacked their two big signings for the first stage — Meijer because he did not fit in with their style of play, and Hanssen after arguments — but everything is going right now.

Hanssen's departure has given fellow Dutchman Erik Van Rossum a place in the side. Van Rossum, recruited from Plymouth Argyle, joins Brazilian Luiz Carlos Pereira in central defence.

Frank Ordenwitz from Koln has done wonders for JEF United. The combination of Ordenewitz, Littbarski and Pavel gives them the best forward line in the league, which eases the pressure on a shaky defence.

Gamba Osaka lost their first three games before new signings Sergei Aleinikov (star of Soviet World Cup teams but now of Byelorussia) and Bulgarian Kiril Metkov turned the team right around.

Metkov scored in the second minute of his debut against Yokohama Marinos, and added the second in a 2-1 win.

The clear trend is for J.League teams to start buying the players they need rather than just looking for big names. Clubs have matured remarkably in only three months.

Urawa Red Diamonds, lowest scorers in the first stage, have announced the signing of former German international striker Uwe Rahn, 31, who was top scorer in the Bundesliga for Borussia Monchengladbach in 1987-88.

Red Diamonds also invited former German national team keeper Sepp Meier for a fortnight, to give goalkeeping coaching.

All these German links clearly show the value of their Beckenbauer connection.

Yokohama Flugels have signed Raul Vincente Amarilla Vera on loan from Olympia of Paraguay, South American Player of the Year in 1990. He was previously with Gary Lineker at Barcelona.

Kashima's woes were partly due to the absence of key midfielder Masatada Ishii through injury.

But Kashima's cause was not helped by an ugly incident in the Marinos game when Alcindo, he of the contract for advertising wigs, pushed the referee with the ball in protest against a booking. That resulted in a four-match suspension.

Nagoya Grampus Eight continue as erratically as ever and were bottom after six games. Lineker's foot is recovering more slowly than expected.

The second stage broke off for the national team to prepare for the World Cup qualifiers.

The League Cup, minus national team members will be played in the meantime, with the second stage resuming in November. The big draw is the appearance of Brazilian Careca (below) for Kashiwa Reysol, a J.League aspirant club allowed to play in this year's League Cup but not yet in the League.

MIKE PLASTOW AND MICHI ISHIJIMA

J.LEAGUE — 2ND STAGE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 25

WEEKEND

GAMBA OSAKA 0
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Santos 107). **Att:** 22,677.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 4 (Kazama 17, 73, Noh 36, Uemura 40)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0. **Att:** 13,067.

GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Jorginho 29)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Maeda 8, Edu 44). **Att:** 38,757.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 3 (Bisconti 4, Diaz 43, 72)
VERDY KAWASAKI 0. **Att:** 14,248.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 1 (Goto 76)
SHIMIZU S PULSE 0. **Att:** 9,358.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

WEEKEND

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Takada 35, Tomishima 88)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 3 (Echigo 22, Goto 23, Littbarski 61). **Att:** 12,425.

VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Takeda 53, Miura 80)
GAMBA OSAKA 0. **Att:** 27,674.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 2 (Mukojima 80, Hasegawa 92)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 1 (Vonderburg 9). **Att:** 8,991.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0.
Att: 9,373. *Urawa won 4-2 on pens*

KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Santos 34)
GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Goto 54).
Att: 14,747. *Antlers won 5-3 on pens*

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

MIDWEEK

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 3 (Tanaka 47, Noh 58, Cerny 89)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 0. **Att:** 12,758.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 4 (Edu 35, 85, Sawanoborl 44, Mukojima 46). **Att:** 13,146.

GAMBA OSAKA 0
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Hashiratani 3). **Att:** 20,259.

VERDY KAWASAKI 3 (Miura 51, Ramos 82)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Alcindo 39). **Att:** 10,150.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 5 (Goto 20, Pavel 28 pen, 83, Ordenewitz 75)
GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Asana 8, Okayama 68). **Att:** 10,551.

WEEKEND

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0
GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Nagashima 49, Kudaka 75). **Att:** 34,872.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Tajima 112). **Att:** 13,133.

GRAMPUS EIGHT 4 (Tsuruta 29, Shimamura 48, Hirano 56, Garca 89)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Uehara 1). **Att:** 11,858.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 1 (Miura 59)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Zico 30). **Att:** 14,152. *Marinos won 8-7 on pens*

VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Miura 78, Bismarck 89)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 1 (Littbarski 36). **Att:** 21,745.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Metkov 2, 68)
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 1 (Bisconti 31). **Att:** 21,509.

GRAMPUS EIGHT 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Tajima 94). **Att:** 25,301.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 2 (Mochizuki 34, Hashiratani 47)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 3 (Ordenewitz 4, 16, Pavel 84). **Att:** 9,366.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Masaka 73)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Maeda 30, Yamaguchi 48). **Att:**14,035.

VERDY KAWASAKI 3 (Ramos 1, Miura 41, Takeda 63)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0. **Att:** 10,195.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

MIDWEEK

VERDY KAWASAKI 3 (Miura 68 pen, Abe 70, Nakamura 89)
GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Ogawa 6). **Att:** 54,977.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Mukojima 32). **Att:** 13,938.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Maeda 14). **Att:** 9,267.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 1 (Diaz 40)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 2 (Matsuda 33, Takagi 102). **Att:** 14,102.

GAMBA OSAKA 2 (Matsuyama 79, Isogai 89)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 0. **Att:** 20,438.

J.LEAGUE — *Second stage*

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Shimizu S Pulse	6	5	1	9	2	10
Verdy Kawasaki	6	5	1	12	6	10
JEF United	6	4	2	13	10	8
Sanfrecce Hiroshima	6	3	3	10	8	6
Gamba Osaka	6	3	3	6	5	6
Yokohama Flugels	6	3	3	7	9	6
Kashima Antlers	6	2	4	5	7	4
Yokohama Marinos	6	2	4	6	9	4
Urawa Red Diamonds	6	2	4	6	9	4
Grampus Eight	6	1	5	9	13	2

THAILAND

Goodbye to the top Thai

THAILAND'S victory in the 1993 SEA Games held in Singapore is likely to be remembered in South-East Asia for the last appearance in a major tournament of striker, Piyapong Pue-on, who is now 32.

He made his first international appearances for Thailand in regional youth events — indeed a profile of him was the first report I ever had published in *WORLD SOCCER* — and he has been scoring ever since.

I have had the privilege of watching Piyapong on several occasions over the years and the lasting memory is of a player with that extra something, a regional hero who, but for the lack of exposure, might have become a world star.

Although Piyapong was world class, Thailand were not.

Full of talent, but unable to cope with the organisation and size of the Koreans and Middle Eastern teams who dominate Asian soccer.

In the big games Piyapong too often found the players around him were unable to provide the service a player of his style requires.

At home he has been a loyal servant of the Royal Thailand Air Force team, broken only by spells in Malaysia and in Japan.

Internationally his greatest games were usually in the SEA tournament and he has two gold medals, won ten years apart.

The SEA Games also brought his biggest heartache, when he was the main victim of the totally-unsupported bribe scandal that followed Thailand's defeat in 1989. His family received threats and Piyapong fled to a monastery to escape.

Although he continued to play for RTAF, his international career looked over until he was controversially

BANGLADESH

Mass exodus after failure

DISMAL results in the World Cup qualifying games led to drastic action by the Bangladeshi National Sports Council — who sacked the entire FA committee responsible for running the international set-up.

A new committee took office under the leadership of retired colonel Oli Ahmed, a senior Cabinet minister.

The members include a former international forward and FA secretary and president, Hafiz Uddin. He has taken up the post in addition to his duties as an MP, senior vice-president of the Asian Football Confederation, and FIFA disciplinary committee member.

AZAM MAHMOOD

recalled for this year's World Cup campaign.

The goals started to flow again and, come the SEA Games, there was Piyapong wearing the red captain's armband and racing down the field like a 12-year-old as he added yet one more goal to his record.

Piyapong comes to life around the penalty area. He is never more dangerous than when the ball is played into space ahead of him, allowing him half a yard start on a defender.

His acceleration is still there and he combines sprinter's speed with the courage to charge into the area, forcing defenders to risk the lunging tackles that so often bring penalties.

Surprisingly he seldom takes these kicks himself, while at free-kicks he prefers to hang around the opposing wall, ready to pounce on rebounds.

By Thai standards Piyapong is tall, and he has the build that enables him to do well in the air, even against larger opponents. Although there is little "flashy" about his play he can be acrobatic enough when he needs to, throwing himself through the air to make volleys.

Piyapong's leadership and goals are certainly going to be missed by the Thai team, although there is great confidence that a replacement has been found in 17-year-old Kiatisak Senamuang.

He was top scorer in last year's Asian Under-16 competition with nine goals, and was called up for the Merlion and King's Cup competitions, followed by the SEA Games. He was used sparingly, but still scored three in the group games as well as the winner in the final.

Senamuang is a modest young man who admits that he still has much to learn. To compare him with Piyapong is unfair, because they have different styles. Senamuang probably will not hit as many goals, but he will show more willingness to pick the ball up deep.

The Olympic qualifiers are the next target for this youngster who knows that, sooner or later, he must try to fill the place left by the greatest Thai player of all time.

BOB PATEMAN

SAUDI ARABIA

Three games, one goal, one Cup

AL SHABAB'S victory in Saudi Arabia's premier knockout competition, the King's Cup, was well deserved, but marred by the method of victory: penalty shoot-outs in quarter-final, semi-final and final.

League and Cup commitments plus regular calls on several players for international matches, including World Cup qualifiers, mean that Al Shabab's squad play an ever-increasing number of games.

But they defied tiredness to make amends for last season's defeat in the King's Cup Final, when they lost to Al Qadsia . . . on penalties.

This time they beat Al Ahly (4-3) and Al Nahda (6-5) after goalless draws, then took the trophy for the first time by defeating Al Ittihad 5-3 after the teams had been level 1-1 at the end of extra time.

Said Al Owairan scored for Al Shabab seven minutes before the interval, and Nizar Abbas equalised two minutes after it.

SYRIA

Champions with six against

AL ITTIHAD from Aleppo scored only 31 goals in their 24 matches in the Syrian League . . . but conceded a record SIX and won the title with eight points to spare.

Their fourth championship, but their first for 16 years, was achieved by 13 victories and nine draws (48 points) to set against two defeats.

Defending champions Al Horria finished second, on goal diference, ahead of Al Karama.

Al Foutoua, who won the title in 1989-90 and 1990-91, were relegated after having 18 points deducted because of misbehaviour by supporters.

In the FA Cup, Al Ittihad were surprisingly defeated by Hottin, who won the two-leg semi-final 3-2 on aggregate. But Hottin were crushed 4-0 in the final against Al Wehda, who took the trophy for the first time.

National captain Nizar Mahrous was outstanding forAl Wehda, scoring one goal and making the others for Khaled Al Saleh (two) and Assaf Khalifa.

LEBANON

Al Borj win six-hour battle

A CLUB founded only five years ago made history by winning Lebanon's FA Cup after the final had been replayed twice.

Al Borj, founded in 1988, reached the Premier Division in 1991 and finished seventh at their first attempt. Now they have taken the knockout trophy, against all expectations.

Al Ansar, who had won the competition in the three previous seasons, were favourites again, but Al Borj beat them 3-2. They then scraped past Riyada Wal Adab and Harakat Al Shabab on penalties, to reach the final, against Homenmen.

The first meeting was drawn 1-1, and the second did not produce a goal. In the third, the teams were still level after 90 minutes, but Homenmen suddenly collapsed and were beaten 4-1. Malam Boubakar and Hassan Rahal each scored twice, and Babkin Malikian's reply was only a consolation.

MOHAMMED CHBARRO

Saddam's shadow over US '94

AMERICAN interest in the Asian World Cup qualifying tournament in Doha extends well beyond soccer circles.

What if Iraq qualify and soccer fan Saddam Hussein tests the pledge made by President Reagan in 1987, when the US were trying to gain the right to host the finals: that his Government would co-operate with visas for all participating teams and their supporters?

What will be the response of the American public, still bitter over the Tehran hostages humiliation of 1979, if Iran advance and insist upon displaying a portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini when posing for pre-match team group photos, as is their wont?

What mischief can be expected from that last bastion of Communist orthodoxy, North Korea, if she is present at US '94?

SOUTH EAST ASIAN GAMES

Freak goal earns SEA Gold

SOCCER is the most popular of the multi-sports events which make up the SEA Games, contested every two years, and the 1993 competition was contested by nine nations over two weeks.

Thailand, the favourites, duly took the gold medals for the fifth time by beating Myanmar 4-3 in a remarkable final, with three goals in the first nine minutes and a freak decider by Kiatisak Senamaung three minutes from the end.

He seemed to have no chance of scoring with a back-header from a narrow angle, but the ball looped over the keeper and dropped into the net. Myo Hlaing Win had given Myanmar the lead, only for Vitoon and Piyapong to reply for the Thais.

Another goal by Vitoon soon after half-time seemed conclusive, but the outsiders hit back, with Kyi-Lwin and Myo scoring before Kiatisak's late decider.

The teams had met on the opening day, in the qualifying competition, when Thailand won 2-0 with goals from — not surprisingly — Piyapong and Kiatisak.

Thailand won the group and beat Indonesia in the semi-final, Vitoon scoring the goal that AVENGED DEFEAT IN THE 1991 FINAL.

In the other semi-final, Myanmar came from 2-0 down to draw 3-3 with Singapore, and then won 5-4 on penalties after the host nation's captain, Razali Saad, missed from the spot.

In addition to Piyapong and Kiatisak, the outstanding players of the tournament were Steven Tan and Fandi Ahmad of Singapore, Dollah Sallah of Malaysia, who scored five in a 9-0 win over Laos, and Myo of Myanmar, named man of the match in the final.

SOUTH EAST ASIAN GAMES — Previous winners

1959	South Vietnam
1961	Malaysia
1965	Burma & Thailand
1967	Burma
1969	Burma
1971	Burma
1973	Burma
1975	Thailand
1977	Malaysia
1979	Malaysia
1981	Thailand
1983	Thailand
1985	Thailand
1987	Indonesia
1989	Malaysia
1991	Indonesia

BOB PATEMAN

AUSTRALIA

Schwarzer joins the hero list

AUSTRALIA has yet another national sporting hero — 20-year-old Mark Schwarzer.

In his second senior international, Marconi goalkeeper Schwarzer entered folklore by saving two penalties as the Socceroos won a shoot-out against Canada and moved a step closer to next year's World Cup finals.

Schwarzer was appearing only because of Mark Bosnich's astonishing retirement from international soccer and the suspension of his successor, Robert Zabica.

Unspecified "business pressures" were cited by Bosnich as his reasons for discarding the Australia jersey (at 21!) and he claimed that his club, Aston Villa, had not exerted any pressure on him to make such a decision. FIFA thought otherwise and their suspension meant Bosnich missed the opening games of Villa's current English Premiership campaign.

Australia very nearly found themselves without another two of their European-based players when they faced Canada in the first leg. Only after protracted negotiations did French club Lens and Racing Strasbourg release Robbie Slater and Frank Farina respectively.

Despite having Zabica sent off early (hence the suspension and Schwarzer's debut), Australia lost only 2-1 and, with an away goal and the presence of Slater and Farina assured, they looked towards the return in Sydney with optimism.

Farina opened the scoring in the last minute of the first half, but, ironically, Australia's second goal came as a result of Slater's substitution.

His replacement, veteran David Mitchell (above), had been on the pitch for less than a minute when he provided the opportunity for Mehmet Durakovic (below left) to score.

Earlier, an error by Schwarzer enabled Lyndon Hooper to restore Canada's aggregate lead. But, his overall play was steady and his shoot-out heroics suggest he has a sparkling future.

Australia, however, made heavy weather of disposing of a mediocre Canadian side who finished with only ten men because of injuries.

They will have to improve considerably if the last hurdle of an arduous World Cup qualifying programme, surprisingly Argentina from South American Group A, is to be cleared.

The Western Australian team will compete in the Singaporean National League next year.

Frustration at the Australian Soccer Federation's tardiness in admitting a WA team in their national league — Perth's geographical isolation was always cited as the reason for the delay — prompted the move.

Western Australian officials claim that the airfares for flights to Singapore next year will be only slightly higher than if the team flew to Australia's east coast every fortnight, as they would need to do if members of the Coca-Cola League.

PAUL MOON

INDIA

Vijayan's goal is vital

INDIA are the first holders of a new trophy for competition among some of the Asian nations.

They won the four-sided SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation) tournament staged in Lahore, Pakistan.

Victories over Sri Lanka and Nepal put India into a strong position before the final match, but they needed a last-minute goal from Vijayan to gain a 1-1 draw with Pakistan.

So India finished first with five points, with Sri Lanka on three and Nepal and Pakistan on two.

Results:
India 2 Sri Lanka 0; Pakistan 1 Nepal 1; Sri Lanka 0 Nepal 0; Pakistan 0 Sri Lanka 4; India 1 Nepal 0; Pakistan 1 India 1.

● Players of India's three strongest clubs, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan SC, marked the Indian FA's centenary with a procession in Calcutta.

They travelled by a horse-drawn coach and in vintage cars to the FA office in Eden Gardens for the annual registration and transfer ceremony, accompanied by musicians and supporters.

The IFA are allowing women competitors to become members, for the first time. A new women's league is being set up, hopefully with up to 12 teams.

SINGAPORE

Skipper jailed

THE captain of a Singapore soccer club has been jailed for four months, for trying to "bend" a vital match.

Stephen Choon, 32, of Jurong Town, was convicted of offering bribes to the Gibraltar Crescent goalkeeper and another player with the Jurong club, so that they would lose and enable Jurong Town to avoid relegation.

G C DAS

KOREA

Twin task for two Koreas

NORTH AND SOUTH Korea are no longer the unquestioned giants of East Asian football, but both are making strong bids to qualify for the World Cup in the United States.

North Korea, runners-up in the 1990 Asian Games, are best remembered for that astonishing quarter-final against Portugal in 1966. The Koreans led 3-0 only to crumble 5-3 against Eusebio.

South Korea, though they have never won a finals match, have been there three times, including the last two in succession.

The past year has been spent in a place that neither country can tolerate — in the shadow of Japan.

First, South Korea crashed out of the Asian Cup qualifiers when, brimming with confidence, they fielded an under-strength side in Bangkok.

Japan then took the Dynasty Cup in August, crushing North Korea 4-1 and drawing twice with the South.

North Korea held Japan 1-1 early in the Asian Cup in Hiroshima, but Japan went on to win the tournament.

South Korea, meanwhile, tried to rehabilitate themselves in the Asian football community by offering to host the 1996 Asian Cup. That offer was spurned and the AFC awarded it to the United Arab Emirates.

For both Koreas, everything now hangs on the 1994 World Cup.

South Korea's campaign started nervously in Lebanon, under the watch of machine-gun posts and armed guards.

At least they were spared the ordeal Hong Kong suffered, when Lebanese fans celebrated a penalty with gunfire.

The 0-0 draw with Bahrain in the first match owed much to inspired saves by stand-in goalkeeper Sin Rum-chul.

The second game, a 1-0 victory over Lebanon, was little better, but then the Koreans found their rhythm.

Consecutive 3-0 victories over India and Hong Kong put them in the driving seat for the second leg in Seoul, where South Korea confidently dismissed Hong Kong 4-1, Lebanon 2-0, India 7-0 and Bahrain 3-0.

They remain a fast, fit attacking outfit, surprisingly good in the air for an East Asian side. Other Asian opponents are forced to defend and rely on counter-attacks.

But despite all those goals in Seoul, South Korea's big weakness is up front. Former Asian Footballer of the Year Kim Joo-sung may be recalled for the second round, to give the attack experience. But not all news was bad in the striking department.

The revelation, Ha Sok-ju of Daewoo Royals, scored in six consecutive games. North Korea faced the harder draw, being paired with Gulf champions Qatar. The first two qualifiers, a 3-1 victory over Vietnam and a 2-1 win against Singapore, were both marred by a late sending-off. Pang Gwang-chol was dismissed for kicking in the first match, midfielder Kim Gwang-min followed for a heavy tackle in the second.

German coach Pal Csernai's all-round team, always quick on the break, beat Indonesia 4-0 and won the first match with Qatar 2-1.

Qatar gained a 2-2 draw in the second leg, but by then North Korea were through after Qatar had slumped to Singapore.

North Korea remain outsiders for the second round — against the likes of Japan, Iraq and South Korea — but they have youth and should keep getting better.

Both Koreas and Japan entered the second round with an identical qualifying record of seven wins and one draw.

Even so, North Korean coach Yun Miong-chan may make some changes in midfield for the second round.

MIKE PLASTOW AND MICHI ISHIJIMA

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1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUPS

EUROPE

38 entries (39 members, Liechtenstein withdrew)

● *Top two teams in each Group qualify for finals (Germany qualify as holders).*

GROUP 1

16.08.92	Estonia v Switzerland	0-6
09.09.92	Switzerland v Scotland	3-1
14.10.92	Italy v Switzerland	2-2
14.10.92	Scotland v Portugal	0-0
25.10.92	Malta v Estonia	0-0
18.11.92	Scotland v Italy	0-0
18.11.92	Switzerland v Malta	3-0
19.12.92	Malta v Italy	1-2
24.01.93	Malta v Portugal	0-1
17.02.93	Scotland v Malta	3-0
24.02.93	Portugal v Italy	1-3
24.03.93	Italy v Malta	6-1
31.03.93	Switzerland v Portugal	1-1
14.04.93	Italy v Estonia	2-0
17.04.93	Malta v Switzerland	0-2
28.04.93	Portugal v Scotland	5-0
01.05.93	Switzerland v Italy	1-0
12.05.93	Estonia v Malta	0-1
19.05.93	Estonia v Scotland	0-3
02.06.93	Scotland v Estonia	3-1
19.06.93	Portugal v Malta	4-0
05.09.93	Estonia v Portugal	
08.09.93	Scotland v Switzerland	
22.09.93	Estonia v Italy	
13.10.93	Portugal v Switzerland	
13.10.93	Italy v Scotland	
10.11.93	Portugal v Estonia	
17.11.93	Italy v Portugal	
17.11.93	Malta v Scotland	
17.11.93	Switzerland v Estonia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	7	5	2	0	18	4	12
Italy	7	4	2	1	15	6	10
Portugal	6	3	2	1	12	4	8
Scotland	7	3	2	2	10	9	8
Malta	9	1	1	7	3	21	3
Estonia	6	0	1	5	1	15	1

GROUP 2

09.09.92	Norway v San Marino	10-0
23.09.92	Norway v Holland	2-1
23.09.92	Poland v Turkey	1-0
07.10.92	San Marino v Norway	0-2
14.10.92	England v Norway	1-1
14.10.92	Holland v Poland	2-2
28.10.92	Turkey v San Marino	4-1
18.11.92	England v Turkey	4-0
16.12.92	Turkey v Holland	1-3
17.02.93	England v San Marino	6-0
24.02.93	Holland v Turkey	3-1
10.03.93	San Marino v Turkey	0-0
24.03.93	Holland v San Marino	6-0
31.03.93	Turkey v England	0-2
28.04.93	England v Holland	2-2
28.04.93	Norway v Turkey	3-1
28.04.93	Poland v San Marino	1-0
19.05.93	San Marino v Poland	0-3
29.05.93	Poland v England	1-1
02.06.93	Norway v England	2-0
09.06.93	Holland v Norway	0-0
08.09.93	England v Poland	
22.09.93	Norway v Poland	
22.09.93	San Marino v Holland	
13.10.93	Holland v England	
13.10.93	Poland v Norway	
27.10.93	Turkey v Poland	
10.11.93	Turkey v Norway	
16.11.93	San Marino v England	
17.11.93	Poland v Holland	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	7	5	2	0	20	3	12
England	7	3	3	1	16	6	9
Holland	7	3	3	1	17	8	9
Poland	5	3	2	0	8	3	8
Turkey	8	1	1	6	7	17	3
San Marino	8	0	1	7	1	32	1

GROUP 3

22.04.92	Spain v Albania	3-0
28.04.92	Northern Ireland v Lithuania	2-2
26.05.92	Rep. of Ireland v Albania	2-0
03.06.92	Albania v Lithuania	1-0
12.08.92	Latvia v Lithuania	1-2
26.08.92	Latvia v Denmark	0-0
09.09.92	Rep. of Ireland v Latvia	4-0
09.09.92	Northern Ireland v Albania	3-0
23.09.92	Latvia v Spain	0-0
23.09.92	Lithuania v Denmark	0-0
14.10.92	Denmark v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
14.10.92	Northern Ireland v Spain	0-0
28.10.92	Lithuania v Latvia	1-1
11.11.92	Albania v Latvia	1-1
18.11.92	Northern Ireland v Denmark	0-1
18.11.92	Spain v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
16.12.92	Spain v Latvia	5-0
17.02.93	Albania v Northern Ireland	1-2
24.02.93	Spain v Lithuania	5-0
31.03.93	Denmark v Spain	1-0
31.03.93	Rep. of Ireland v N. Ireland	3-0
14.04.93	Denmark v Latvia	2-0
14.04.93	Lithuania v Albania	3-1
28.04.93	Rep. of Ireland v Denmark	1-1
28.04.93	Spain v Northern Ireland	3-1
15.05.93	Latvia v Albania	0-0
25.05.93	Lithuania v Northern Ireland	0-1
26.05.93	Albania v Rep. of Ireland	1-2
02.06.93	Denmark v Albania	4-0
02.06.93	Latvia v Northern Ireland	1-2
02.06.93	Lithuania v Spain	0-2
09.06.93	Latvia v Rep. of Ireland	0-2
16.06.93	Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland	0-1
25.08.93	Denmark v Lithuania	4-0
08.09.93	Albania v Denmark	
08.09.93	Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania	
08.09.93	Northern Ireland v Latvia	
22.09.93	Albania v Spain	
13.10.93	Denmark v Northern Ireland	
13.10.93	Rep. of Ireland v Spain	
17.11.93	N. Ireland v Rep. of Ireland	
17.11.93	Spain v Denmark	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rep. of Ireland	9	6	3	0	15	2	15
Denmark	9	5	4	0	13	1	14
Spain	9	5	3	1	18	2	13
N. Ireland	9	4	2	3	11	11	10
Lithuania	11	2	3	6	8	19	7
Latvia	11	0	5	6	4	19	5
Albania	10	1	2	7	5	20	4

GROUP 4

22.04.92	Belgium v Cyprus	1-0
06.05.92	Romania v Faroe Islands	7-0
20.05.92	Romania v Wales	5-1
03.06.92	Faroe Islands v Belgium	0-3
18.06.92	Faroe Islands v Cyprus	0-2
02.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Belgium	1-2
09.09.92	Wales v Faroe Islands	6-0
23.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Faroe Islands	4-0
14.10.92	Belgium v Romania	1-0
14.10.92	Cyprus v Wales	0-1
14.11.92	Romania v Czechoslovakia	1-1
18.11.92	Belgium v Wales	2-0
29.11.92	Cyprus v Romania	1-4
13.02.93	Cyprus v Belgium	0-3
24.03.93	Cyprus v Czechoslovakia	1-1
31.03.93	Wales v Belgium	2-0
14.04.93	Romania v Cyprus	2-1
25.04.93	Cyprus v Faroe Islands	3-1
28.04.93	Czechoslovakia v Wales	1-1
22.05.93	Belgium v Faroe Islands	3-0
02.06.93	Czechoslovakia v Romania	5-2
06.06.93	Faroe Islands v Wales	0-3
16.06.93	Faroe Islands v Czechoslovakia	0-3
08.09.93	Wales v Czechoslovakia	
08.09.93	Faroe Islands v Romania	
13.10.93	Romania v Belgium	
13.10.93	Wales v Cyprus	
27.10.93	Czechoslovakia v Cyprus	
17.11.93	Wales v Romania	
17.11.93	Belgium v Czechoslovakia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	8	7	0	1	15	3	14
Romania	7	4	1	2	21	10	9
Czechoslovakia	7	3	3	1	16	7	9
Wales	7	4	1	2	14	8	9
Cyprus	8	2	1	5	8	13	5
Faroe Islands	9	0	0	9	1	34	0

GROUP 5

13.05.92	Greece v Iceland	1-0
03.06.92	Hungary v Iceland	1-2
09.09.92	Luxembourg v Hungary	0-3
07.10.92	Iceland v Greece	0-1
14.10.92	Russia v Iceland	1-0
28.10.92	Russia v Luxembourg	2-0
11.11.92	Greece v Hungary	0-0
17.02.93	Greece v Luxembourg	2-0
31.03.93	Hungary v Greece	0-1
14.04.93	Luxembourg v Russia	0-4
28.04.93	Russia v Hungary	3-0
20.05.93	Luxembourg v Iceland	1-1
23.05.93	Russia v Greece	1-1
02.06.93	Iceland v Russia	1-1
16.06.93	Iceland v Hungary	2-0
08.09.93	Hungary v Russia	
08.09.93	Iceland v Luxembourg	
12.10.93	Luxembourg v Greece	
27.10.93	Hungary v Luxembourg	
17.11.93	Greece v Russia	

★ *Yugoslavia excluded due to UN sanctions.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
RUSSIA	6	4	2	0	12	2	10
GREECE	6	4	2	0	6	1	10
Iceland	7	2	2	3	6	6	6
Hungary	6	1	1	4	4	8	3
Luxembourg	5	0	1	4	1	12	1

Russia & Greece qualify for finals.

GROUP 6

14.05.92	Finland v Bulgaria	0-3
09.09.92	Bulgaria v France	2-0
09.09.92	Finland v Sweden	0-1
07.10.92	Sweden v Bulgaria	2-0
14.10.92	France v Austria	2-0
28.10.92	Austria v Israel	5-2
11.11.92	Israel v Sweden	1-3
14.11.92	France v Finland	2-1
02.12.92	Israel v Bulgaria	0-2
17.02.93	Israel v France	0-4
27.03.93	Austria v France	0-1
14.04.93	Austria v Bulgaria	3-1
28.04.93	France v Sweden	2-1
28.04.93	Bulgaria v Finland	2-0
12.05.93	Bulgaria v Israel	2-2
13.05.93	Finland v Austria	3-1
19.05.93	Sweden v Austria	1-0
02.06.93	Sweden v Israel	5-0
16.06.93	Finland v Israel	0-0
22.08.93	Sweden v France	1-1
25.08.93	Austria v Finland	3-0
08.09.93	Finland v France	
08.09.93	Bulgaria v Sweden	
13.10.93	France v Israel	
13.10.93	Bulgaria v Austria	
13.10.93	Sweden v Finland	
27.20.93	Israel v Austria	
10.11.93	Austria v Sweden	
10.11.93	Israel v Finland	
17.11.93	France v Bulgaria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	7	5	1	1	14	4	11
France	7	5	1	1	12	5	11
Bulgaria	7	4	1	2	12	7	9
Austria	7	3	0	4	12	10	6
Finland	7	1	1	5	4	12	3
Israel	7	0	2	5	5	21	2

AFRICA

37 entries (48 members)

● *Group winners qualify for Second Round of 3 mini leagues of 3 teams each. Winners qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

09.10.92	Algeria v Burundi	3-1
25.10.92	Burundi v Ghana	1-0
20.12.92	Ghana v Algeria	2-0
17.01.93	Burundi v Algeria	0-0
31.01.93	Ghana v Burundi	1-0
26.02.93	Algeria v Ghana	2-1

★ *Uganda withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALGERIA	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
Ghana	4	2	0	2	4	3	4
Burundi	4	1	1	2	2	4	3

GROUP B

18.10.92	Cameroon v Swaziland	5-0
25.10.92	Swaziland v Zaire	1-0
10.01.93	Zaire v Cameroon	1-2
17.01.93	Swaziland v Cameroon	0-0
29.02.93	Cameroon v Zaire	0-0

★ *Liberia withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAMEROON	4	2	2	0	7	1	6
Swaziland	3	1	1	1	1	5	3
Zaire	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

Not played: *Zaire v Swaziland*

GROUP C

11.10.92	Egypt v Angola	1-0
11.10.92	Zimbabwe v Togo	1-0
25.10.92	Togo v Egypt	1-4
20.12.92	Zimbabwe v Egypt	2-1
10.01.93	Angola v Zimbabwe	1-1
17.01.93	Togo v Zimbabwe	1-2
18.01.93	Angola v Egypt	0-0
31.01.93	Egypt v Togo	3-0
31.01.93	Zimbabwe v Angola	2-1
28.02.93	Egypt v Zimbabwe	2-1
	Result declared void after protest	
28.02.93	Togo v Angola	0-1
	Replay *(in Lyons)*	
15.04.93	Egypt v Zimbabwe	0-0

★ *Sierra Leone withdrew, Togo replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZIMBABWE	6	4	2	0	8	4	10
Egypt	6	3	2	1	9	3	8
Angola	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Togo	5	0	0	5	2	11	0

Not played: *Angola v Togo*

GROUP D

10.10.92	Nigeria v South Africa	4-0
25.10.92	South Africa v Congo	1-0
20.12.92	Congo v Nigeria	0-1
17.01.93	South Africa v Nigeria	0-0
31.01.93	Congo v South Africa	0-1
27.02.93	Nigeria v Congo	2-0

★ *Sao Tome e Principe withdrew, Libya withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NIGERIA	4	3	1	0	7	0	7
South Africa	4	2	1	1	2	4	5
Congo	4	0	0	4	0	5	0

GROUP E

10.10.92	Ivory Coast v Botswana	6-0
25.10.92	Niger v Ivory Coast	0-0
20.12.92	Botswana v Niger	0-1
17.01.93	Botswana v Ivory Coast	0-0
31.01.93	Ivory Coast v Niger	1-0
28.02.93	Niger v Botswana	2-1

★ *Sudan withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IVORY COAST	4	2	2	0	7	0	6
Niger	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Botswana	4	0	1	3	1	9	1

GROUP F

11.10.92	Morocco v Ethiopia	5-0
11.10.92	Tunisia v Benin	5-1
25.10.92	Ethiopia v Tunisia	0-0
25.10.92	Benin v Morocco	0-1
20.12.92	Tunisia v Morocco	1-1
20.12.92	Ethiopia v Benin	3-1
17.01.93	Ethiopia v Morocco	0-1
17.01.93	Benin v Tunisia	0-5
31.01.93	Tunisia v Ethiopia	3-0
31.01.93	Morocco v Benin	5-0
28.02.93	Benin v Ethiopia	1-0
28.02.93	Morocco v Tunisia	0-0

★ *Malawi withdrew, Benin replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MOROCCO	6	4	2	0	13	1	10
Tunisia	6	3	3	0	14	2	9
Ethiopia	6	1	1	4	3	11	3
Benin	6	1	0	5	3	19	2

GROUP G

11.10.92	Gabon v Mozambique	3-1
25.10.92	Mozambique v Senegal	0-1
19.12.92	Gabon v Senegal	3-2
17.02.93	Mozambique v Gabon	1-1
30.01.93	Senegal v Mozambique	6-1
27.02.93	Senegal v Gabon	1-0

★ *Mauritania withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SENEGAL	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Gabon	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Mozambique	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP H

11.01.92	Madagascar v Namibia	3-0
25.10.92	Namibia v Zambia	0-4
20.12.92	Madagascar v Zambia	2-0
17.01.93	Namibia v Madagascar	0-1
30.01.93	Zambia v Namibia	4-0
27.02.93	Zambia v Madagascar	3-1

★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZAMBIA	4	3	0	1	11	3	6
Madagascar	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

GROUP I

20.12.92	Guinea v Kenya	4-0
27.02.93	Kenya v Guinea	2-0

★ *Gambia & Mali withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GUINEA	2	1	0	1	4	2	2
Kenya	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

Second Round

GROUP A

16.04.93	Algeria v Ivory Coast	1-1
02.05.93	Ivory Coast v Nigena	2-1

France's Blanc (left) and Sweden's Brolin tangle in Stockholm.

03.07.93 Nigeria v Algeria ... 4-1
18.07.93 Ivory Coast v Algeria ... 1-0
25.09.93 Nigeria v Ivory Coast
08.10.93 Algeria v Nigeria

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ivory Coast	3	2	1	0	4	2	5
Nigeria	2	1	0	1	5	3	2
Algeria	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

GROUP B

18.04.93 Morocco v Senegal ... 1-0
04.07.93 Zambia v Morocco ... 2-1
17.07.93 Senegal v Morocco ... 1-3
07.08.93 Senegal v Zambia ... 0-0
26.09.93 Zambia v Senegal
10.10.93 Morocco v Zambia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morocco	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Zambia	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Senegal	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

GROUP C

18.04.93 Cameroon v Guinea ... 3-1
02.05.93 Guinea v Zimbabwe ... 3-0
04.07.93 Zimbabwe v Cameroon ... 1-0
18.07.93 Guinea v Cameroon ... 0-1
26.09.93 Zimbabwe v Guinea
10.10.93 Cameroon v Zimbabwe

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cameroon	3	2	0	1	4	2	4
Guinea	3	1	0	2	4	4	2
Zimbabwe	2	1	0	1	1	3	2

CONCACAF

23 entries (27 members, Cuba withdrew)

● *Top two in Group A play (home & away) against top two in Group B. Winning nation qualifies for finals. Runners-up play Oceania winners for right to play South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals (United States qualify as hosts).*

Pre-preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

21.03.92 Dominican Rep. v P. Rico ... 1-2
22.03.92 St Lucia v St Vincent ... 1-0
29.03.92 P. Rico v Dominican Rep. ... 1-1
29.03.92 St Vincent v St Lucia ... 3-1

Preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

26.04.92 Bermuda v Haiti ... 1-0
25.05.92 Jamaica v Puerto Rico ... 2-1
25.05.92 Haiti v Bermuda ... 2-1
30.05.92 Puerto Rico v Jamaica ... 0-1
St Vincent v Cuba★

★ *Cuba withdrew.*

St Vincent, Bermuda & Jamaica qualify for 1st rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION — SOUTH

19.04.92 Dutch Antilles v Antigua ... 1-1
26.04.92 Antigua v Dutch Antilles ... 3-0
26.04.92 Guyana v Surinam ... 1-2
24.05.92 Barbados v Trin. & Tobago ... 1-2
25.05.92 Surinam v Guyana ... 1-1
31.05.92 Trin. & Tobago v Barbados ... 3-0

Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua and Surinam qualify for 1st rnd

First Round

CENTRAL REGION

19.07.92 Guatemala v Honduras ... 0-0
19.07.92 Nicaragua v El Salvador ... 0-5
23.07.92 El Salvador v Nicaragua ... 5-1
26.07.92 Honduras v Guatemala ... 2-0
16.08.92 Panama v Costa Rica ... 1-0
23.08.92 Costa Rica v Panama ... 5-1

El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica qualify for 2nd rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION

14.06.92 Antigua v Bermuda ... 0-3
05.07.92 Trinidad & Tobago v Jamaica ... 1-2
04.07.92 Bermuda v Antigua ... 2-1
02.08.92 Surinam v St Vincent ... 0-0
16.08.92 Jamaica v Trinidad & Tobago ... 1-1
30.08.92 St Vincent v Surinam ... 2-1

Bermuda, Jamaica and St Vincent qualify for 2nd rnd

Second Round

GROUP A

08.11.92 Costa Rica v Honduras ... 2-3
08.11.92 St Vincent v Mexico ... 0-4
15.11.92 Mexico v Honduras ... 2-0
15.11.92 St Vincent v Costa Rica ... 0-1
22.11.92 Mexico v Costa Rica ... 4-0
22.11.92 St Vincent v Honduras ... 0-4
28.11.92 Honduras v St Vincent ... 4-0
29.11.92 Costa Rica v Mexico ... 2-0
05.12.92 Honduras v Costa Rica ... 2-1
06.12.92 Mexico v St Vincent ... 11-0
13.12.92 Costa Rica v St Vincent ... 5-0
13.12.92 Honduras v Mexico ... 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	4	1	1	22	3	9
HONDURAS	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Costa Rica	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
St. Vincent	6	0	0	6	0	29	0

Mexico & Honduras qualify for final rnd

GROUP B

18.10.92 Jamaica v Canada ... 1-1
18.10.92 Bermuda v El Salvador ... 1-0
25.10.92 El Salvador v Canada ... 1-1
25.10.92 Bermuda v Jamaica ... 1-1
01.11.92 Canada v Jamaica ... 1-0

Brazil's Rai and Uruguay's Francescoli (10) in combat.

01.11.92 El Salvador v Bermuda ... 4-1
08.11.92 Canada v El Salvador ... 2-3
08.11.92 Jamaica v Bermuda ... 3-2
15.11.92 Canada v Bermuda ... 4-2
22.11.92 Jamaica v El Salvador ... 0-2
06.12.92 Bermuda v Canada ... 0-0
06.12.92 El Salvador v Jamaica ... 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EL SALVADOR	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
CANADA	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
Jamaica	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Bermuda	6	1	2	3	7	12	4

El Salvador & Canada qualify for final rnd

Final Round

04.04.93 El Salvador v Mexico ... 2-1
04.04.93 Honduras v Canada ... 2-2
11.04.93 Mexico v Honduras ... 3-0
11.04.93 Canada v El Salvador ... 2-0
18.04.93 Canada v Honduras ... 3-1
18.04.93 Mexico v El Salvador ... 3-1
25.04.93 Mexico v Canada ... 4-0
25.04.93 Honduras v El Salvador ... 2-0
02.05.93 Honduras v Mexico ... 1-4
02.05.93 El Salvador v Canada ... 1-2
09.05.93 Canada v Mexico ... 1-2
09.05.93 El Salvador v Honduras ... 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	5	0	1	17	5	10
Canada	6	3	1	2	10	10	7
El Salvador	6	2	0	4	6	11	4
Honduras	6	1	1	4	7	13	3

Mexico qualify for finals, Canada qualify for play-off with Australia.

Play-off

1st leg

31.07.93 Canada v Australia ... 2-1

2nd leg

15.08.93 Australia v Canada ... 2-1

Australia won 4-1 on pens & face runners-up of South America Group A for a place in the finals.

SOUTH AMERICA

9 entries (10 members, Chile suspended)

● *Winners of Group A & winners & runners-up in Group B qualify for finals. Group A runners-up play winners of CONCACAF/ Oceania play-off for a place in the finals.*

GROUP A

Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru.

01.08.93 Colombia v Paraguay ... 0-0
01.08.93 Peru v Argentina ... 0-1
08.08.93 Paraguay v Argentina ... 1-3
08.08.93 Peru v Colombia ... 0-1
15.08.93 Colombia v Argentina ... 2-1
15.08.93 Paraguay v Peru ... 2-1
22.08.93 Argentina v Peru ... 2-1
22.08.93 Paraguay v Colombia ... 1-1
29.08.93 Argentina v Paraguay ... 0-0
29.08.93 Colombia v Peru ... 4-0
05.09.93 Argentina v Colombia
05.09.93 Peru v Paraguay

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colombia	5	3	2	0	8	2	8
Argentina	5	3	1	1	7	4	7
Paraguay	5	1	3	1	4	5	5
Peru	5	0	0	5	2	10	0

GROUP B

Brazil, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela.

18.07.93 Ecuador v Brazil ... 0-0
18.07.93 Venezuela v Bolivia ... 1-7
25.07.93 Bolivia v Brazil ... 2-0
25.07.93 Venezuela v Uruguay ... 0-1
01.08.93 Uruguay v Ecuador ... 0-0
01.08.93 Venezuela v Brazil ... 1-5
08.08.93 Bolivia v Uruguay ... 3-0
08.08.93 Ecuador v Venezuela ... 5-0
15.08.93 Bolivia v Ecuador ... 1-0
15.08.93 Uruguay v Brazil ... 1-1
22.08.93 Bolivia v Venezuela ... 7-0
22.08.93 Brazil v Ecuador ... 2-0
29.08.93 Brazil v Bolivia ... 6-0
29.08.93 Uruguay v Venezuela ... 4-0
05.09.93 Brazil v Venezuela
05.09.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
12.09.93 Uruguay v Bolivia
12.09.93 Venezuela v Ecuador
19.09.93 Brazil v Uruguay
19.09.93 Ecuador v Bolivia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolivia	6	5	0	1	20	7	10
Brazil	6	3	2	1	14	4	8
Uruguay	5	2	2	1	6	4	6
Ecuador	5	1	2	2	5	3	4
Venezuela	6	0	0	6	2	29	0

OCEANIA

7 entries (8 members, Western Samoa withdrew)

● *The two Group winners play (home & away) with the winners qualifying to meet the CONCACAF runners-up. The winners of that match will meet the South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals.*

GROUP 1

11.07.92 Solomon Islands v Tahiti ... 1-1
04.09.92 Solomon Islands v Australia ... 1-2
11.09.92 Tahiti v Australia ... 0-3
20.09.92 Australia v Tahiti ... 2-0
25.09.92 Australia v Solomon Islands ... 6-1
09.10.92 Tahiti v Solomon Islands ... 4-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Tahiti	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Solomon Islands	4	0	1	3	5	13	1

Australia qualify for final play-off

GROUP 2

07.06.92 New Zealand v Fiji ... 3-0
27.06.92 Vanuatu v New Zealand ... 1-4
01.07.92 New Zealand v Vanuatu ... 8-0
12.09.92 Fiji v Vanuatu ... 3-0
19.09.92 Fiji v New Zealand ... 0-0
26.09.92 Vanuatu v Fiji ... 0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEW ZEALAND	4	3	1	0	15	1	7
Fiji	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Vanuatu	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

New Zealand qualify for final play-off

Play-off

1st leg

30.05.93 New Zealand v Australia ... 0-1

2nd leg

06.06.93 Australia v New Zealand ... 3-0

Australia won 4-0 on agg and meet Canada in a play-off . See CONCACAF section for details.

ASIA

29 entries (36 members)

● *The six Group winners qualify for Second Round, to be played as (home & away) mini-league. Winners & runners-up qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

22.05.93 Jordan v Yemen ▲ ... 1-1
22.05.93 Pakistan v China ▲ ... 0-5
24.05.93 Jordan v Iraq ▲ ... 1-1
24.05.93 Yemen v Pakistan ▲ ... 5-1
26.05.93 Jordan v China ▲ ... 0-3
26.05.93 Yemen v Iraq ▲ ... 1-6
28.05.93 Pakistan v Iraq ▲ ... 0-8
28.05.93 Yemen v China ▲ ... 1-0
30.05.93 Jordan v Pakistan ▲ ... 3-1
30.05.93 Iraq v China ▲ ... 1-0
12.06.93 Yemen v Jordan ▼ ... 1-1
12.06.93 China v Pakistan ▼ ... 3-0
14.06.93 Iraq v Jordan ▼ ... 4-0
14.06.93 Pakistan v Yemen ▼ ... 0-3
16.06.93 China v Jordan ▼ ... 4-1
16.06.93 Iraq v Yemen ▼ ... 3-0
18.06.93 Iraq v Pakistan ▼ ... 4-0
18.06.93 China v Yemen ▼ ... 1-0
20.06.93 Pakistan v Jordan ▼ ... 0-5
20.06.93 China v Iraq ▼ ... 2-1
▲ in Amman, Jordan
▼ in Beijing, China

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IRAQ	8	6	1	1	28	4	13
China	8	6	0	2	18	4	12
Yemen	8	3	2	3	12	13	8
Jordan	8	2	3	3	12	15	7
Pakistan	8	0	0	8	2	36	0

GROUP B

23.06.93 Iran v Oman ▲ ... 0-0
23.06.93 Taiwan v Syria ▲ ... 0-2
25.06.93 Oman v Syria ▲ ... 0-0
25.06.93 Iran v Taiwan ▲ ... 6-0
27.06.93 Oman v Taiwan ▲ ... 2-1
27.06.93 Iran v Syria ▲ ... 1-1
02.07.93 Oman v Iran ▼ ... 0-1
02.07.93 Syria v Taiwan ▼ ... 8-1
04.07.93 Syria v Oman ▼ ... 2-1
04.07.93 Taiwan v Iran ▼ ... 0-6
06.07.93 Taiwan v Oman ▼ ... 1-7
06.07.93 Syria v Iran ▼ ... 1-1
▲ in Tehran, Iran
▼ in Damascus, Syria
★ *Myanmar (formerly Burma) withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IRAN	6	3	3	0	15	2	9
Syria	6	3	3	0	14	4	9
Oman	6	2	2	2	10	5	6
Taiwan	6	0	0	6	3	31	0

GROUP C

09.04.93 Qatar v Indonesia ▲ ... 3-1
09.04.93 North Korea v Vietnam ▲ ... 3-0
11.04.93 North Korea v Singapore ▲ ... 2-1
11.04.93 Qatar v Vietnam ▲ ... 4-0
13.04.93 North Korea v Indonesia ▲ ... 4-0
13.04.93 Vietnam v Singapore ▲ ... 2-3
16.04.93 Qatar v Singapore ▲ ... 4-1
16.04.93 Vietnam v Indonesia ▲ ... 1-0
18.04.93 Indonesia v Singapore ▲ ... 0-2
18.04.93 Qatar v North Korea ▲ ... 1-2
24.04.93 Indonesia v Qatar ▼ ... 1-4
24.04.93 Vietnam v North Korea ▼ ... 0-1
26.04.93 Singapore v North Korea ▼ ... 1-3
26.04.93 Vietnam v Qatar ▼ ... 0-4
28.04.93 Indonesia v North Korea ▼ ... 1-2
28.04.93 Singapore v Vietnam ▼ ... 1-0
30.04.93 Singapore v Qatar ▼ ... 1-0
30.04.93 Indonesia v Vietnam ▼ ... 2-1
02.05.93 Singapore v Indonesia ▼ ... 2-1
02.05.93 North Korea v Qatar ▼ ... 2-2
▲ in Doha, Qatar
▼ in Singapore

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NORTH KOREA	8	7	1	0	19	6	15
Qatar	8	5	1	2	22	8	11
Singapore	8	5	0	3	12	12	10
Indonesia	8	1	0	7	6	19	2
Vietnam	8	1	0	7	4	18	2

GROUP D

07.05.93 Lebanon v India ▲ ... 2-2
07.05.93 Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲ ... 2-1
09.05.93 Bahrain v South Korea ▲ ... 0-0
09.05.93 Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲ ... 2-2
11.05.93 India v Hong Kong ▲ ... 1-2
11.05.93 Lebanon v South Korea ▲ ... 0-1
13.05.93 Lebanon v Bahrain ▲ ... 0-0
13.05.93 India v South Korea ▲ ... 0-3
15.05.93 Hong Kong v South Korea ▲ ... 0-3
15.05.93 Bahrain v India ▲ ... 2-1
05.06.93 South Korea v Hong Kong ▼ ... 3-0
05.06.93 Bahrain v Lebanon ▼ ... 0-0
07.06.93 India v Bahrain ▼ ... 0-3
07.06.93 South Korea v Lebanon ▼ ... 2-0
09.06.93 Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼ ... 1-2
09.06.93 South Korea v India ▼ ... 7-0
11.06.93 India v Lebanon ▼ ... 1-2
11.06.93 Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼ ... 3-0
13.06.93 South Korea v Bahrain ▼ ... 3-0
13.06.93 Hong Kong v India ▼ ... 1-3
▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SOUTH KOREA	8	7	1	0	22	0	15
Bahrain	8	3	3	2	9	6	9
Lebanon	8	2	4	2	8	9	8
Hong Kong	8	2	1	5	8	18	5
India	8	1	1	6	8	22	3

GROUP E

01.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▲ ... 6-0
01.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▲ ... 1-1
03.05.93 Kuwait v Macao ▲ ... 10-1
03.05.93 Malaysia v Saudi Arabia ▲ ... 1-1
05.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▲ ... 0-0
05.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▲ ... 9-0
14.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▼ ... 0-2
14.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▼ ... 8-0
16.05.93 Macao v Kuwait ▼ ... 0-8
16.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Malaysia ▼ ... 3-0
18.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▼ ... 5-0
18.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▼ ... 2-0
▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SAUDI ARABIA	6	4	2	0	20	1	10
Kuwait	6	3	2	1	21	4	8
Malaysia	6	2	2	3	16	7	6
Macao	6	0	0	6	1	46	0

GROUP F

08.04.93 Japan v Thailand ▲ ... 1-0
08.04.93 Sri Lanka v UAE ▲ ... 0-4
11.04.93 Japan v Bangladesh ▲ ... 8-0
11.04.93 Thailand v Sri Lanka ▲ ... 1-0
13.04.93 Sri Lanka v Bangladesh ▲ ... 0-1
13.04.93 UAE v Thailand ▲ ... 1-0
15.04.93 Japan v Sri Lanka ▲ ... 5-0
15.04.93 UAE v Bangladesh ▲ ... 1-0
18.04.93 Japan v UAE ▲ ... 2-0
18.04.93 Thailand v Bangladesh ▲ ... 4-1
28.04.93 Thailand v Japan ▼ ... 0-1
28.04.93 UAE v Sri Lanka ▼ ... 3-0
30.04.93 Bangladesh v Japan ▼ ... 1-4
30.04.93 Thailand v UAE ▼ ... 1-2
03.05.93 Bangladesh v UAE ▼ ... 0-7
03.05.93 Sri Lanka v Thailand ▼ ... 0-3
05.05.93 Bangladesh v Thailand ▼ ... 1-4
05.05.93 Sri Lanka v Japan ▼ ... 0-6
07.05.93 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka ▼ ... 3-0
07.05.93 UAE v Japan ▼ ... 1-1
▲ in Tokyo, Japan
▼ in Dubai, UAE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
JAPAN	8	7	1	0	28	2	15
UAE	8	6	1	1	19	4	13
Thailand	8	4	0	4	13	7	8
Bangladesh	8	2	0	6	7	28	4
Sri Lanka	8	0	0	8	0	26	0

Second Round

15.10.93 North Korea v Iraq
15.10.93 Saudi Arabia v Japan
16.10.93 Iran v South Korea
18.10.93 North Korea v Saudi Arabia
18.10.93 Japan v Iran
19.10.93 Iraq v South Korea
21.10.93 North Korea v Japan
22.10.93 Iran v Iraq
22.10.93 South Korea v Saudi Arabia
24.10.93 Iraq v Saudi Arabia
25.10.93 Japan v South Korea
25.10.93 Iran v North Korea
28.10.93 South Korea v North Korea
28.10.93 Saudi Arabia v Iran
28.10.93 Iraq v Japan
● *all matches in Doha, Qatar.*

RESULTS *Manchester United win Charity Shield on penalties . . . Werder Bremen thras*

EUROPE

ENGLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

CHARITY SHIELD

ARSENAL 1 (Wright 40)
MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Hughes 8).
Att: 66,519 *(at Wembley).*
Manchester United won 5-3 on pens

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

ASTON VILLA 4 (Atkinson 38, 90, Saunders 61, Staunton 90)
QPR 1 (Ferdinand 44). **Att:** 32,994.

ARSENAL 0
COVENTRY 3 (Quinn 34 pen, 62, 65).
Att: 24,897.

OLDHAM 0
IPSWICH 3 (Marshall 41, Palmer 45, Mason 69). **Att:** 12,182.

SHEFFIELD UNITED 3 (Falconer 21, Bradshaw 76, Rogers 83)
SWINDON 1 (Moncur 46). **Att:** 20,904.

NORWICH 0
MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Giggs 26, Robson 57). **Att:** 19,705.

SOUTHAMPTON 0
EVERTON 2 (Beagrie 10, Ebbrell 44).
Att: 14,051.

LIVERPOOL 2 (Clough 39, 47)
SHEFFIELD WED 0. **Att:** 44,404.

WEST HAM 0
WIMBLEDON 2 (Fashanu 63, Sanchez 72). **Att:** 20,363.

CHELSEA 1 (Peacock 48)
BLACKBURN 2 (Ripley 63, Newell 78).
Att: 29,189.

NEWCASTLE 0
TOTTENHAM 1 (Sheringham 36).
Att: 35,216.

MAN CITY 1 (Flitcroft 86)
LEEDS 1 (Deane 90). **Att:** 32,366.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

MIDWEEK

TOTTENHAM 0
ARSENAL 1 (Wright). **Att:** 28,355.

EVERTON 1 (Rideout 18)
MAN CITY 0. **Att:** 26,036.

IPSWICH 1 (Marshall 59)
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 14,569.

LEEDS 1 (Speed 61)
WEST HAM 0. **Att:** 34,588.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Fashanu 81)
CHELSEA 1 (Wise 78). **Att:** 11,083.

SWINDON 0
OLDHAM 1 (Bernard 89). **Att:** 11,970.

COVENTRY 2 (Ndlovu 58, Harford 85)
NEWCASTLE 1 (Atherton 22 og).
Att: 15,760.

BLACKBURN 2 (Atkins 7, Wilcox 54)
NORWICH CITY 3 (Sutton 44, 65, Newman 63). **Att:** 14,236.

MANCHESTER UTD 3 (Keane 15, 43, Hughes 85)
SHEFFIELD UTD 0. **Att:**41,949.

QPR 1 (Wilkins 24)
LIVERPOOL 3 (Rush 18, Nicol 38, Clough 41). **Att:** 19,635.

SHEFFIELD WED 0
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 28,450.

WEEKEND

MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Giggs 40)
NEWCASTLE 1 (Cole 71). **Att:** 41,829.

EVERTON 4 (Cottee 35, 83, 90, Ebbrell 45)
SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Whitehouse 1, Cork 89). **Att:** 24,169.

QPR 2 (Penrice 13, Wilson 46)
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Dowie 87).
Att: 10,613.

COVENTRY 1 (Wegerle 57)
WEST HAM 1 (Gordon 45). **Att:** 12,909.

TOTTENHAM 1 (Sedgley 68)
MAN CITY 0. **Att:** 24,535.

SHEFFIELD WED 0
ARSENAL 1 (Wright 9). **Att:** 26,023.

LEEDS 0
NORWICH 4 (Fox 3, 69, Sutton 41, Goss 62). **Att:** 32,008.

IPSWICH 1 (Marshall 33)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 17,582.

WIMBLEDON 2 (Holdsworth 38, Fashanu 85)
ASTON VILLA 2 (Richardson 17, McGrath 82). **Att:** 7,533.

BLACKBURN 1 (Moran 10)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 13,731.

SWINDON 0
LIVERPOOL 5 (Ruddock 19, McManaman 36, 61, Whelan 70, Marsh 80)
Att: 17,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

MIDWEEK

ASTON VILLA 1 (Atkinson 44)
MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Sharpe 17, 74). **Att:** 39,624.

ARSENAL 2 (Newsome 3 og, Merson 57)
LEEDS 1 (Strachan 70). **Att:** 29,042.

OLDHAM 3 (Bernard 38, Ritchie 49 pen, Olney 63)
COVENTRY 3 (Williams 9, Ndlovu 74, Wegerle 84). **Att:** 10,817.

SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Flo 43, Falconer 58)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Clarke 59). **Att:** 15,555.

MAN CITY 0
BLACKBURN 2 (Newell 10, Gallacher 50). **Att:** 25,185.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Clough 18)
TOTTENHAM 2 (Sheringham 30 pen, 42). **Att:** 42,456.

NORWICH 1 (Goss 29)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 19,189.

NEWCASTLE 1 (Allen 18)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 34,833.

SOUTHAMPTON 5 (Le Tissier 12, 52, Kenna 57, Dowie 62, Maddison 79)
SWINDON 1 (Maskell 82 pen).
Att: 12,581.

CHELSEA 2 (Peacock 17, Cascarino 51)
QPR 0. **Att:** 20,191.

WEST HAM 2 (Allen 79, 84)
SHEFFIELD WED 0. **Att:** 19,441.

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 2 (Wright 48, 78)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 29,063.

ASTON VILLA 1 (Staunton 71 pen)
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 32,498.

CHELSEA 1 (Lee 34)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Bright 11).
Att: 16,652.

LIVERPOOL 2 (Rush 24, Molby 40 pen)
LEEDS 0. **Att:** 44,068.

NORWICH 0
SWINDON 0. **Att:** 17,614.

OLDHAM 1 (Bernard 7)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Jones 49). **Att:** 9,633.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Flo 25)
IPSWICH 1 (Whitton 89). **Att:** 17,932.

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Maddison 13)
MAN UNITED 3 (Sharpe 4, Cantona 17, Irwin 49). **Att:** 16,189.

WEST HAM 0
QPR 4 (Peacock 12, Ferdinand 47, 71, Penrice 53). **Att:** 18,084.

MAN CITY 1 (Sheron 34)
COVENTRY 1 (Wegerle 85). **Att:** 21,537.

NEWCASTLE 1 (Cole 61)
BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer 76).
Att: 34,272.

SCOTLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

DUNDEE UNITED 1 (McKinlay 38)
ABERDEEN 1 (Booth 75). **Att:** 13,881.

HIBERNIAN 0
PARTICK THISTLE 0. **Att:** 7,453.

KILMARNOCK 1 (Brown 58)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 6,212.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Arnott 11, Burns 38)
CELTIC 2 (Slater 45, McAvennie 68).
Att: 13,569.

RAITH ROVERS 1 (Dennis 37)
ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Wright 28).
Att: 4,628.

RANGERS 2 (Hagen 45, Hateley 65)
HEARTS 1 (Brown 86 og). **Att:** 43,261.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 1 (Kane 46)
KILMARNOCK 0. **Att:** 14,000.

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Craig 67)
DUNDEE UNITED 2 (Dailly 24, 71).
Att: 5,018.

DUNDEE 1 (Dykstra 4 o.g.)
MOTHERWELL 2 (McKinnon 51, McGrillen 71). **Att:** 4,336.

CELTIC 1 (Nicholas 10)
HIBERNIAN 1 (Tweed 85). **Att:** 27,690.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Wright 4)
RANGERS 2 (Cough 44, Ferguson 51).
Att: 10,152.

HEARTS 1 (Robertson 50)
RAITH ROVERS 0. **Att:** 8,587.

Koln's Rico Steinmann strikes a balletic pose during the 2-1 win away to Schalke.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

WEEKEND

KILMARNOCK 0
MOTHERWELL 1 (McGrillen 66).
Att: 7,555.

DUNDEE 1 (Dodds 54)
ABERDEEN 1 (D. Shearer 3). **Att:** 7,655.

CELTIC 0
RANGERS 0. **Att:** 7,942.

RAITH ROVERS 2 (Dennis 27, Dalziel 60 pen)
PARTICK THISTLE 2 (Britton 34, Grant 53). **Att:** 3,814.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Torfason 65)
DUNDEE UNITED 1 (McKinlay 77).
Att: 6,247.

HEARTS 1 (Johnston 52)
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 17,283.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 0
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:**12,000.

DUNDEE UNITED 0
HEARTS 0. **Att:** 8,502.

HIBERNIAN 2 (Beamont 6, McAllister 78)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 5,941.

MOTHERWELL 4 (Sinclair 19 og, McKinnon 44 pen, McGrillen 52, Kirk 89)
RAITH ROVERS 1 (Coyle 86).
Att: 5,644.

PARTICK 0
CELTIC 1 (McNally 61). **Att:** 14,733.

RANGERS 1 (Pressley 73)
KILMARNOCK 2 (Roberts 62, Williamson 90). **Att:** 44,243.

ITALY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WEEKEND

ATALANTA 5 (Scapolo 19, Rambaudi 32, Ganz 46, 83, Villa 89 og)
CAGLIARI 2 (Dely Valdes 38, 78).
Att: 1,500.

GENOA 2 (Lorenzini 41, Nappi 84)
AS ROMA 0. **Att:** 25,000.

INTER 2 (Jonk 15, Schillaci 55)
REGGIANA 1 (Padovano 35). **Att:** 50,000.

JUVENTUS 1 (Moller 5)
CREMONESE 0. **Att:** 35,000.

LAZIO 0
FOGGIA 0. **Att:** 45,000.

MILAN 1 (Boban 54)
LECCE 0. **Att:** 35,000.

NAPOLI 1 (G. Bresciani 83)
SAMPODRIA 2 (Platt 39, Gullit 43).
Att: 50,000.

PIACENZA 0
TORINO 3 (Carbone 24, Silenzi 63, Poggi 86). **Att:** 15,000.

UDINESE 0
PARMA 1 (Crippa 88). **Att:** 18,000.

GERMANY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Sforza 61, Marin 89)
KOLN 0. **Att:** 38,000.

WATTENSCHEID 3 (Lesniak 33, Fink 42, Bach 85)
SCHALKE 0. **Att:** 32,000.

BAYERN MUNICH 3 (Schupp 8, Valenica 14, 24)
FREIBURG 1 (Freund 36). **Att:** 58,000.

DUISBURG 2 (Wohlert 43, Reinmayr 67)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Sergio 54, Happe 74). **Att:** 25,000.

LEIPZIG 3 (Lindner 10, Anders 17, 25)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 3 (Marschall 15, 27, 69). **Att:** 31,400.

BORUSSIA MG 0
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 4
(Furtok 33, Bein 36, Weber 71,Yeboah 83).
Att: 30,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Sammer 58, Chapuisat 63)
KARLSRUHE 1 (Carl 89). **Att:**40,552.

HAMBURG 5 (Von Heesen 25, 43 pen, Albertz 67, Ivanauskas 73, 90)
NURNBERG 2 (Zarate 3, 56). **Att:**23,150.

WERDER BREMEN 5 (Herzog 16, 36, Hobsch 47, Rufer 75, 81)
STUTTGART 1 (Berthold 66).
Att: 24,676.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

KAISERSLAUTERN 4 (U. Fuchs 5, 36, Kuntz 58, Eriksson 66)
BORUSSIA MG 2 (Neun 28, Pflipsen 47). **Att:** 35,500.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 2
(Yeboah 22, Furtok 71)
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Beiersdorfer 11, M. Bode 54). **Att:** 40,000.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Kirsten 2, Sergio 71)
BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Thon 26 pen).
Att: 27,400.

DUISBURG 1 (Kozle 84)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. **Att:** 16,200.

FREIBURG 4 (Rakli 29, 71, Simon 48, Buric 79)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Neuhaus 57).
Att: 15,000.

KARLSRUHE 2 (Carl 35, 49)
HAMBURG 0. **Att:** 22,000.

SCHALKE 1 (Mulder 79)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0.
Att: 65,000.

NURNBERG 1 (U. Wolf 18)
KOLN 0. **Att:** 49,700.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

MIDWEEK

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Hobsch 16, Beiersdorfer 54, Basler 85)
LEIPZIG 1 (Rische 15). **Att:** 20,855.

WEEKEND

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Neun 74, Fach 67)
NURNBERG 0. **Att:** 21,500.

HAMBURG 4 (Ivanauskas 7, Baron 13, Von Heesen 38 pen, Letchkov 49)
SCHALKE 1 (Anderbrugge 66).
Att: 27,400.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (Riedle 59, Zorc 78, Sammer 80)
STUTTGART 2 (Strunz 24, Sverrisson 54). **Att:** 18,000.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1
(Yeboah 16)
KAISERSLAUTERN 0. **Att:** 32,000.

KOLN 2 (Rudy 6, Kobylanski 84)
KARLSRUHE 1 (Schmitt 68).
Att: 25,000.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Worns 5, Hapal 62)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Wolters 32).
Att: 8,500.

BAYERN MUNICH 5 (Schupp 32, Nerlinger 45, Scholl 48, 56, Ziege 50)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. **Att:** 35,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WEEKEND

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Sergio 20, Fischer 64)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1
(Rummenigge 28). **Att:** 27,400.

SCHALKE 1 (Scherr 45)
KOLN 2 (Rudy 12, Weiser 14). **Att:** 35,500.

NURNBERG 1 (Zarate 59 pen)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 5
(Yeboah 28, 83, Bein 32, Dickaut 88, Binz 90). **Att:** 44,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Eriksson 72, Kadiec 89)
WERDER BREMEN 3 (Borowka 42, A. Herzog 76, Wolter 85). **Att:** 33,163.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Kmetsch 64)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Lobe 9).
Att: 9,750.

FREIBURG 0
HAMBURG 1 (Von Heesen 16).
Att: 15,400.

KARLSRUHE 1 (Kiriakov 20)
BORUSSIA MG 0. **Att:** 24,000.

LEIPZIG 1 (Edmond 46)
DUISBURG 1 (Tarnat 25). **Att:** 9,300.

STUTTGART 2 (Frontzeck 13, Walter 46)
BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Valencia 10, Witeczek 14). **Att:** 53,000.

FRANCE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

TOULOUSE 0
NANTES 3 (Siasia 11, Ouedec 24, 55). **Att:** 9,046.

SOCHAUX 2 (Caveglia 11, Yakovenko 82)
METZ 1 (Zitelli 83). **Att:** 6,000.

BORDEAUX 0
CANNES 0. **Att:** 24,000.

CAEN 1 (Nouma 56)
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 18,618.

ANGERS 3 (Lagrange 6, Daury 59, El Hadaoui 62 pen)
LYON 1 (Debbah 88). **Att:** 8,615.

STRASBOURG 2 (Sassus 2 og, Regis 57)
PARIS SG 2 (Weah 6, Roche 47). **Att:** 27,959.

MARSEILLE 1 (Boli 29)
LE HAVRE 1 (Ba 30). **Att:** 25,000.

MONTPELLIER 1 (Asanovic 55)
MARTIGUES 0. **Att:**8,512.

ST ETIENNE 2 (Moreau 26, Swierczewski 63)
MONACO 0. **Att:** 21,482.

LILLE 0
LENS 0. **Att:** 10,438.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

MIDWEEK

NANTES 0
MARSEILLE 0. **Att:** 36,000.

CANNES 2 (Micoud 14, Etame 17 og)
LILLE 1 (Assadourian 86). **Att:** 9,293.

PARIS SG 1 (Ginola 50)
SOCHAUX 0. **Att:** 18,000.

MONACO 3 (Simba 18, 24, Ikpeba 21)
BORDEAUX 2 (Dugarry 9, Vercruysse 43). **Att:** 14,000.

LYON 2 (Abou 33, 84)
METZ 0. **Att:** 24,000.

MARTIGUES 4 (Tholot 53, Anziani 67, Ralaikera 73, Benarbia 85)
CAEN 1 (Dedebant 79). **Att:** 5,000.

AUXERRE 0
ANGERS 0. **Att:** 10,000.

TOULOUSE 0
STRASBOURG 0. **Att:** 6,891.

LENS 2 (Dehu 61, 86)
MONTPELLIER 1 (Divert 18). **Att:** 15,766.

LE HAVRE 0
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 9,501.

WEEKEND

STRASBOURG 2 (Hasek 27, Bouafia 44)
CANNES 2 (Thys 63 og, Priou 85). **Att:** 20,236.

BORDEAUX 2 (Vercruysse 58, 79)
NANTES 0. **Att:** 26,390.

SOCHAUX 0
LYON 1 (Flachez 40). **Att:** 6,386.

ANGERS 1 (El Hadaoui 45 pen)
MARTIGUES 3 (Ralaikera 36, Bossis 64, Tholot 85). **Att:** 5,944.

MONTPELLIER 0
MONACO 3 (Djorkaeff 48, 77, Simba 57). **Att:** 12,412.

MARSEILLE 1 (Boksic 87)
PARIS SG 0. **Att:** 35,000.

METZ 0
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 11,979.

CAEN 1 (Revelles 40)
LENS 0. **Att:** 16,118.

ST ETIENNE 2 (L. Blanc 2, Moravcik 55)
TOULOUSE 2 (Pavon 78, Debu 86). **Att:** 12,000.

LILLE 2 (Frandsen 19, Assadourian 45)
LE HAVRE 2 (Tiehi 2, Delaunay 3). **Att:** 5,321.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WEEKEND

CANNES 1 (Banin 4)
SOCHAUX 1 (Vos 58). **Att:** 7,000.

ST ETIENNE 0
BORDEAUX 0. **Att:** 20,117.

NANTES 0
MONTPELLIER 0. **Att:** 17,361.

MARTIGUES 1 (Benarbia 37)
METZ 1 (Sechet 23). **Att:** 5,000.

MONACO 0
MARSEILLE 0. **Att:** 20,000.

AUXERRE 3 (Baticle 39,42, 80)
LYON 2 (Gava 10, Rivenet 44). **Att:** 12,000.

PARIS SG 2 (Bravo 48, Ginola 61)
CAEN 0. **Att:** 20,874.

LE HAVRE 0
STRASBOURG 1 (Bailis 49). **Att:** 7,211.

LENS 0
ANGERS 1 (Daury 76). **Att:** 17,295.

TOULOUSE 1 (Ferrer 56)
LILLE 1 (Andersson 22). **Att:** 6,607.

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
MODLING 1

SPORTCLUB 0
SALZBURG 0

STURM GRAZ 1
RAPID WIEN 0

WACKER INNSBRUCK 2
ST POLTEN 1

VORWARTS STEYR 4
ADMIRA WACKER 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

MIDWEEK

MODLING 2
VORWAERTS STEYR 1

SALZBURG 1
WACKER INNSBRUCK 0

ADMIRA WACKER 2
STURM GRAZ 2

RAPID WIEN 3
SPORTCLUB 1

ST POLTEN 3
AUSTRIA WIEN 2

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 1
SALZBURG 2

MODLING 1
ST POLTEN 0

SPORTCLUB 0
ADMIRA WACKER 2

VORWARTS STEYR 0
STURM GRAZ 1

INNSBRUCK 1
RAPID WIEN 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

MIDWEEK

SALZBURG 1
MODLING 2

ADMIRA WACKER 0
WACKER INNSBRUCK

STURM GRAZ 3
SPORTCLUB 1

RAPID WIEN 0
AUSTRIA WIEN 3

ST POLTEN 3
VORWARTS STEYR 1

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 2
ADMIRA WACKER 0

MODLING 1
RAPID WIEN 1

VORWARTS STEYR 6
SPORTCLUB 0

INNSBRUCK 4
STURM GRAZ 2

ST POLTEN 1
SALZBURG 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

WEEKEND

SPORTCLUB 1
WACKER INNSBRUCK 1

SALZBOURG 2
VORWARTS STEYR 0

ADMIRA WACKER 2
MODLING 0

STURM GRAZ 2
AUSTRIA WIEN 4

RAPID WIEN 4
ST POLTEN 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WEEKEND

AUSTRIA WIEN 3
SPORTCLUB

MODLING 1
STURM GRAZ 0

SALZBURG 1
RAPID WIEN

VORWARTS STEYR 1
INNSBRUCK 1

ST POLTEN 0
ADMIRA WACKER 1

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

GENT 2 (Dauwen 65, Booy 84)
CERCLE BRUGES 0. **Att:** 8,000.

CHARLEROI 2 (Brogno 65, Balog 69)
GENK 1 (Busuttil 29). **Att:** 8,500.

STANDARD 1 (Goossens 34)
SERAING 0. **Att:** 15,000.

LIERSE 0
LIEGE 1 (Ernes 45). **Att:** 4,000.

LOMMEL 3 (Peeters 34, Berghuis 53, Scavone 88)
WAREGEM 0. **Att:** 6,000.

ANDERLECHT 2 (Zetterberg 23, Bosman 68)
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 19,400.

CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Staelens 45, Amokachi 68)
MECHELEN 1 (Van den Buys 31). **Att:** 12,000.

EKEREN 4 (Talbut 7, Van de Walle 39 pen, N'Sumbu 53, Diagne 67)
RWDM 1 (Wuyts 55). **Att:** 5,000.

OSTENDE 1 (Janik 25)
BEVEREN 1 (Udovic 35). **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

CERCLE BRUGES 0
OSTENDE 0. **Att:** 4,000.

GENK 0
STANDARD 2 (Wilmots 37, Goossens 80). **Att:** 12,000.

SERAING 2 (Teppers 60, Edmilson 69)
LIERSE 0. **Att:**3,000.

LIEGE 1 (Godefroy 67)
LOMMEL 1 (Vanhken 75). **Att:** 6,000.

WAREGEM 2 (Kruzen 77, Dekennen 85)
ANDERLECHT 4 (Bosman 38, Degryse 45, 88, Nilis 52). **Att:** 2,000.

ANTWERP 1 (Severeyns 5)
GENT 1 (Karacic 6). **Att:**9,000.

MECHELEN 3 (Eszenyi 83, 86, Czerniatynski 89)
EKEREN 1 (M'Sumbu 50). **Att:** 5,000.

RWDM 2 (Rubinilson 42, Wuyts 88)
CHARLEROI 4 (Balog 35, Missemisse 59, Brogno 84, Malbasa 89). **Att:** 5,000.

BEVEREN 1 (Ludovic 51)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Amokachi 81). **Att:** 1,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

WEEKEND

GENT 2 (Viscaal 83, 84)
WAREGEM 2 (Kruzen 26, Urban 88). **Att:** 14,000.

CERCLE BRUGES 2 (Weber 2, 22)
ANTWERP 4 (Kiekens 28, 47, Severeyns 44, Kovacs 62). **Att:** 6,000.

CHARLEROI 1 (Malbasa 2)
MECHELEN 0. **Att:** 10,000.

STANDARD 0
MOLENBEEK 1 (Rouyr 37). **Att:** 18,000.

LIERSE 3 (Rekdale 66, 73, Pauwels 72)
GENK 1 (Goots 48). **Att:** 5,000.

LOMMEL 0
SERAING 3 (Lerkuku 13, 82, Wamberto 88). **Att:** 9,200.

ANDERLECHT 6 (Degryse 12, 60, Nilis 35, 47, Grasson 19, Bosman 74)
LIEGE 0. **Att:** 21,000.

EKEREN 0
BEVEREN 0. **Att:** 4,000.

OSTEND 2 (Poppe 65, Janik 70)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Vermant 60, Amokachi 88). **Att:** 8,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

MIDWEEK

MECHELEN 1 (De Boeck 84)
STANDARD 1 (Lashaf 62). **Att:** 10,000.

BEVEREN 1 (Udovic 16)
CHARLEROI 1 (Brogno 71). **Att:** 6,000.

ANTWERP 0
OSTEND 4 (Swietek 9, Bonomi 25, Renty 47, Janik 54). **Att:** 6,000.

WAREGEM 2 (Urban 2, Krugzen 35)
CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Weber 36, 85, Vandewalle 55). **Att:** 6,000.

RWDM 0
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 4,500.

GENK 1 (Busuttil 84)
LOMMEL 3 (Mukanya 23, Peeters 25, Berghuis 40). **Att:** 8,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 0
EKEREN 0. **Att:** 9,000.

LIEGE 0
GENT 0. **Att:** 6,000.

SERAING 1 (Edmilson 3)
ANDERLECHT 2 (Albert 18, Degryse 73). **Att:** 14,000.

WEEKEND

GENT 0
SERAING 0. **Att:** 7,000.

CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Lauwers 22, 87, Weber 84)
LIEGE 3 (Ernes 13, 40, Arnold 10. **Att:** 3,000.

CHARLEROI 0
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Vermant 78). **Att:** 12,000.

STANDARD 0
BEVEREN 0. **Att:** 9,000.

LIERSE 0
MECHELEN 0. **Att:** 6,000.

LOMMEL 3 (Berghuis 40, 84, Pekters 45)
RWDM 1 (Jacop 66). **Att:** 7,000.

ANDERLECHT 6 (Versavel 18, Bosman 20, 32,44, Degryse 49, Albert 85)
GENK 2 (Busuttil 50, Goots 89). **Att:** 14,000.

ANTWERP 2 (Broeckaert 23, Smidts 89)
WAREGEM 0. **Att:** 6,000.

OSTEND 2 (Maes 6, Van Veirdeghem 10)
EKEREN 2 (Janssens 64, Dheedene 77). **Att:** 8,000.

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

WILLEM 1 (Van Arum 53)
MVV 0. **Att:** 7,000.

HEERENVEEN 1 (Schaap 85)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 12,700.

GA EAGLES 1 (Steinmann 6)
VITESSE 4 (Iroha 32, Gilhaus 1, 50, 63). **Att:** 7,000.

NAC 2 (Van Hooydonck 5, Lieftink 73)
RODA 3 (V.D. Luer 64, Hofstede 67, 72). **Att:** 7,000.

AJAX 3 (Rijkaard 3, Pedersen 48, Overmars 68)
RKC 0. **Att:** 18,302.

GRONINGEN 1 (Holbed 82)
PSV 2 (Kalusha 64, Popescu 78). **Att:** 12,092.

FEYENOORD 1 (Witschge 47)
CAMBUUR 0. **Att:** 23,100.

VOLENDAM 2 (Pastoor 33, Vukov 67)
UTRECHT 2 (Sier 52, Kelders 77). **Att:** 5,000.

TWENTE 3 (Polley 53, 85, Uurens 72)
VVV 0. **Att:** 5,8000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

WEEKEND

SPARTA 1 (Van der Laan 89)
WILLEM II 0. **Att:** 2,500.

RODA 2 (Babangida 31, Troost 50)
VOLENDAM 0. **Att:** 5,500.

RKC 1 (Streppel 70)
TWENTE 3 (Gaasbeek 11, Zwijnenberg 37, Polley 73 pen. **Att:** 3,100.

PSV 3 (Popescu 51, 68, Van Ankeren 75)
GA EAGLES 0. **Att:** 24,780.

CAMBUUR 1 (Lokhoff 31)
NAC 3 (De Gier 17, Van Hooydonk 37, Lammers 80). **Att:** 7,000.

UTRECHT 1 (Smolarek 74)
AJAX 4 (Litmanen 45, 68, Rijkaard 52, 68). **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

MIDWEEK

WILLEM II 0
VITESSE 3 (Latuheru 55, Straal 73, Cocu 80). **Att:** 7,000.

MVV 1 (Lanckhor 3)
RKC 1 (Boogers 66). **Att:** 5,433.

HEERENVEEN 0
PSV 0. **Att:** 14,00.

GA EAGLES 4 (Van Blerk 38, 72, Bosveit 88, Heering 90)
UTRECHT 0. **Att:** 6,000.

NAC 4 (Van Hooydonk 50, 90, Lammers 75, 81)
VVV 1 (De Graef 44). **Att:** 8,665.

AJAX 3 (Van den Brom 70, Oulida 79, Georges 83)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 19,200.

GRONINGEN 3 (Djurovski 45, 55, Roossien 84)
RODA 5 (Babangida 15, 90, Hofstede 20, 29, 77). **Att:** 10,875.

VOLENDAM 4 (Molenaar 59, Wasiman 63, Stefanovic 83, Stueur 86)
CAMBUUR 1 (De Gier 7). **Att:** 3,500.

FEYENOORD 1 (Maas 61)
TWENTE 0. **Att:** 20,600.

WEEKEND

SPARTA 2 (Jalink 60, Van Der Laan 67)
MVV 2 (Scheepers 25, Roelofsen 39). **Att:** 4,500.

VITESSE 0
AJAX 1 (Litmanen 51). **Att:** 11,640.

RODA 2 (Van der Leur 53, Van Gulen 62)
GA EAGLES 1 (Bosveit 71). **Att:** 6,500.

PSV 2 (Lamptey 45, Meyer 90)
WILLEM II 1 (Hofstede 42). **Att:** 25,000.

UTRECHT 0
HEERENVEEN 1 (Echteld 88). **Att:** 6,500.

CAMBUUR 0
GRONINGEN 2 (Reiziger 30, Djurovski 56). **Att:** 8,000.

TWENTE 0
NAC 1 (Van Hooydonk 75). **Att:** 6,000.

VVV 2 (Graaf 37 pen, Graem 45)
VOLENDAM 0. **Att:** 4,000.

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

WEEKEND

ESTORIL 1 (Jose Carlos 70)
BEIRA MAR 0. **Att:** 12,000.

PORTO 3 (Vinha 9, P. Perreira 62, 71 pen)
BENFICA 3 (Isaias 25, 63, Aguas 26). **Att:** 60,000.

BOAVISTA 3 (Marlon Brandao 30, 48, J. Luis 50 og)
MARITIMO 2 (J. Andrade 14, Wilson Gottardo 55). **Att:** 20,000.

GUIMARAES 1 (Vasco 6)
BRAGA 1 (Forbs 19). **Att:** 6,500.

UNIAO MADEIRA 2 (Dragan 47, Beto 51)
PACOS FERREIRA 0. **Att:** 10,000.

SPORTING 2 (Cadete 15, Capuco 83)
SALGUEIROS 1 (Sa Pinto 86). **Att:** 55,000.

AMADORA 0
SETUBAL 0. **Att:** 8,300.

FARENSE 1 (Aassan 89)
BELENENSES 0. **Att:** 12,800.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

MIDWEEK

BEIRA MAR 3 (Ze Ribeiro 72, Kristic 85, Costa 90)
FARENSE 0. **Att:** 15,000.

BENFICA 1 (Rui Aguas 61)
ESTORIL 1 (Papai 89). **Att:** 40,000.

MARITIMO 1 (Andrade 54)
PORTO 0. **Att:** 15,000.

FAMALICAO 0
BOAVISTA 3 (Brandao 23, Nelo 43, Owubokiri 48). **Att:** 12,300.

BRAGA 0
GUIMARAES 0. **Att:** 25,000.

PACOS FERREIRA 3 (Riva 25, Rudi 49, 65)
GIL VICENTE 1 (Drulovic 12). **Att:** 10,500.

SALGUEIROS 1 (Rui Neves 8)
UNIAO MADEIRA 0. **Att:** 8,800.

BELENENSES 2 (Edmundo 27 og, Mauro Airez 58)
AMADORA 1 (Fernando 76). **Att:** 10,000.

SETUBAL 2 (Yerkini 15, 60)
SPORTING 3 (Balakov 55, Cherbakov 58, Pacheco 78). **Att:** 25,000.

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

WEEKEND

SERVETTE 2 (Aeby 2, 71)
YVERDON 0. **Att:** 6,700.

KRIENS 2 (Yovanovic 50, Pekas 70)
YOUNG BOYS 4 (R. Sutters 24, Kunz 41, Agostino 53, Nowak 89). **Att:** 4,600.

ZURICH 1 (Blatter 58)
SION 0. **Att:** 7,600.

AARAU 2 (Wyss 1, Aleksandrov 78)
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Nakhid 80). **Att:** 9,200.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Gottardi 23)
LUCERNE 2 (Rueda 56 pen, Guntensberger 74). **Att:**11,800.

LAUSANNE 1 (Sylvestre 6)
LUGANO 2 (Subiat 6, Andrioli 61). **Att:** 6,500.

MIDWEEK

SERVETTE 1 (Andersson 33)
LUGANO 0. **Att:** 5,900.

YVERDON 3 (Luis Carlos 40, 90, Doubias 85)
KRIENS 1 (Trieblolo 53). **Att:** 3,900.

YOUNG BOYS 0
ZURICH 0. **Att:** 6,500.

SION 4 (Tulio 28, Pifaretti 71, Assis 71, Bonvin 77)
AARAU 0. **Att:** 7,500.

GRASSHOPPER 5 (Hania 23, Yakin 24, Bikel 48, 89, Nakhid 69)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Manfreda

85). **Att:** 5,700.
LUCERNE 3 (Guntensberger 4, Rueda 22, Gumur 56)
LAUSANNE 1 (Calderon 87 pen).
Att: 9,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

WEEKEND

KRIENS 2 (Mouidi 48, Przybylo 53 pen)
SERVETTE 2 (Rothenbuhler 24, Deby 94). **Att:** 2,500.

ZURICH 0
YVERDON 0. **Att:** 4,100.

AARAU 1 (Komornicki 51 pen)
YOUNG BOYS 0. **Att:** 5,900.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0
SION 0. **Att:** 10,700.

LAUSANNE 2 (La Placa 24, Sygan 30)
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Makhid 14 pen). **Att:** 5,500.

LUGANO 1 (Subiat 32)
LUCERNE 0. **Att:** 5,700.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

WEEKEND

SERVETTE 1 (Renato 18)
LUCERNE 1 (Tuce 30). **Att:** 6,450.

YVERDON 0
AARAU 0. **Att:** 4,900.

KRIENS 0
ZURICH 2 (Waas 53, 70). **Att:** 2,400.

YOUNG BOYS 2 (Kunz 40, Moser 42)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 3 (Seserovic 13, Noro 24, Chassot 30). **Att:** 6,000.

SION 0
LAUSANNE 0. **Att:** 10,500.

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Magnim 10, Elber 35)
LUGANO 0. **Att:** 5,400.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

MIDWEEK

ZURICH 0
SERVETTE 1 (Andersson 44). **Att:** 6,100.

AARAU 2 (Romunol 39, Alexandrov 54)
KRIENS 0. **Att:** 6,100.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 5 (Seferovic 2, 90, Chassot 30, Anchoz 78, Manfreda 89)
YVERDON 0. **Att:** 13,200.

LUCERNE 0
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Bickel 54 pen). **Att:** 15,300.

LAUSANNE 2 (Calderon 50, Comisetti 59)
YOUNG BOYS 1 (Ippoliti 93). **Att:** 6,100.

LUGANO 2 (Subiat 57 pen, 93)
SION 0. **Att:** 5,000.

WEEKEND

SERVETTE 1 (Andersson 86 pen)
GRASSHOPPER 3 (Koller 9, Wiederkehr 55, Bickel 61). **Att:** 7,700.

YVERDON 0
LAUSANNE 1 (La Placa 80). **Att:** 7,200.

KRIENS 1 (Jovanovic 58)
XAMAX 1 (Seferovic 24). **Att:** 1,500.

YOUNG BOYS 3 (Reich 33, Moser 86, Bregy 89).
LUGANO 0. **Att:** 5,100.

ZURICH 3 (Balijic 21, Kajsi 41, 80)
AARAU 1 (Romano 40). **Att:** 5,100.

SION 3 (Tulio 23, Rey 40, 61)
LUCERNE 0. **Att:** 7,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

MIDWEEK

AARAU 1 (Heldmann 64)
SERVETTE 1 (Neuville 82). **Att:** 3,900.

GRASSHOPPER 1 (Bickel 77)
SION 1 (Tulio 25). **Att:** 4,800.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0
ZURICH 0. **Att:** 9,800.

LUCERNE 0
YOUNG BOYS 0. **Att:** 7,500.

LAUSANNE 2 (Biaggi 11, Calderon 46)
KRIENS 1 (Kern 64). **Att:** 4,800.

LUGANO 2 (Kaslin 48, Fink 58)
YVERDON 1 (Urosevic 71 pen).
Att: 5,000.

WEEKEND

SERVETTE 3 (Neuville 37, Ohrel 45, Renayo 73)
SION 4 (Quentin 6, Hottiger 6, 44, Bonvin 38). **Att:** 7,980.

YVERDON 2 (Castella 15, 75)
LUCERNE 2 (Schaillibaum 14, Nadig 76). **Att:** 3,500.

KRIENS 0
LUGANO 3 (Galvao 24, 76, Subiat 83). **Att:** 1,600.

YOUNG BOYS 0
GRASSHOPPER 0. **Att:** 6,400.

AARAU 4 (Aleksandrov 6, 20, Wyss 54, Romano 74 pen)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0. **Att:** 3,500.

INTERNATIONAL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Jul 28 = Caen — friendly
FRANCE 3 (Sauzee 17, Cantona 21, Papin 37pen)
RUSSIA 1 (Blanc og 24)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 18,500. **Ref:** Trentalange (Ita)
France: Martini (Lama 46) — Boli (Dogon 59), Blanc, Petit (Gravelaine 86), Roche — Le Guen, Deschamps, Martins (Lizarazu 62), Sauzee (Pedros 83) — Papin, Cantona.
Russia: Cherchesov — Ivanov, Onopko, Gurlukovich, Khlestov (Popov 46) — Lediakhov, Piatnitski, Karpin (Tedradze 70), Kanchelskis — Yuran, Radchenko (Faizulin 63).

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Jul 31 = Edmonton — WC qual play-off, 1st leg
CANADA 2 (Watson 50, Mobillo 57)
AUSTRALIA 1 (Dasovic og 45)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,000.
Canada: Forrest — Sweeney, Watson, Yallop, Dasovic (Odinga 46) — Miller, Limniatis (Valentine 46), Hooper, Mitchell — Mobilio, Bunbury.
Australia: *Zabica — Blagojevic (Schwarzer 15), Draskovic, Zelic, Tobin — Van Blerk, Okon, Vidmar (Polak 67), Slater — Arnold, Farina.
**Zabica sent off, 15min.*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Aug 1 = Lima — WC S American gp A
PERU 0
ARGENTINA 1 (Batistuta 29)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Marin (Chi)
Peru: Miranda — Reynoso, Soto, Barco, Olvares, Carranza — Martinez (Muchotrigo 60), Del Solar, Palacios — Gonzalez (Maestri 60), Rivera.
Argentina: Goycochea — F Basualdo, Borelli, Ruggeri, Altamirano — Zapata, Redondo, Simeone, Leo Rodriguez (H Basualdo 68) — Batistuta, Acosta (C Garcia 79).

Aug 1 = Barranquilla — WC S American gp A
COLOMBIA 0
PARAGUAY 0
Att: 60,000. **Ref:** Renato Marsiglia (Bra)
Colombia: Cordoba — L Herrera, Perea, A Mendoza, Wilson Perez — L Alvarez, G Gomez (A Garcia 46), Rincon, Valderrama — Asprilla, Trellez (Valenciano 67).
Paraguay: Chilavert — A Duarte, Rivarola, Ayala, S Suarez — Acuna, Struway, G Gonzalez, L Monzon (A Nunes 56) — Cabanas, A Mendoza (Gamarra 74).

Aug 1 = San Cristobal — WC S American gp B
VENEZUELA 1 (Garcia 84)
BRAZIL 5 (Rai 34pen, Bebeto 70, 79, Branco 71, Palhinha 88)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 26,000. **Ref:** Perez Hoyos (Col)
Venezuela: Gomez — Filosa, *Echenaussi, Gonzalez, Mathias — Hernandez, H Rivas, Palencia, S Rivas (Contreras) — Dolgetta (Garcia), Rodriguez.
**Echenaussi sent off, 33min.*
Brazil: Taffarel — Jorginho, Ricardo Rocha, Marcio Santos, Branco — Mauro Silva, Dunga, Rai (Palhinha) — Bebeto, Careca (Evair).

Aug 1 = Montevideo — WC S American gp B
URUGUAY 0
ECUADOR 0
Att: 55,000. **Ref:** Tejada (Peru)
Uruguay: Siboldi — Herrera, Sanchez, Kanapkis, Cabrera — Moran (J Da Silva 80), Ostolaza, Zalazar, Francescoli — Fonseca (Aguilera 46), Ruben Sosa.
Ecuador: Espinoza — Noriega, Capurro, B Tenorio — Carcelen, M Tenorio, I Hurtado, Coronel, Aguinaga (Chala 40) — Munoz, Hurtado.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Aug 7 = Abidjan — WC African qual
SENEGAL 0
ZAMBIA 0
Att: 15,000. **Ref:** Fouda (SAr)
Senegal: Ndiaye — Tambedou, Cisse, Marieme Diallo, Adolphe Mendy — Sagna, Ndione, Sow, Goumba Lo (Diarra 77) — Badiane, Mamadou Diallo.
Zambia: Phiri — Sakala, Chongo, Litana, Mulubwa — Joel Bwalya(Mbasela 53), Makwaza (Mulenga 57), Mumaile, Johnson Bwalya — Malitoli, Kalusha Bwalya.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Aug 8 = Lima — WC S American gp A
PERU 0
COLOMBIA 1 (Rincon 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 21,500. **Ref:** Rodas (Ecu)
Peru: Miranda — Rivera (Charun 14), Jorge Soto, Barco, Olivares — Carranza, Palacios, Del Solar, Zegarra (Saenz 65) — Muchotrigo, Maestri.
Colombia: Codroba — Herrera, Perea, Mendoza, Perez — Gomez, Lozanco, Rincon, Valderrama — Asprilla, Trellez (Aristizabal 62).

Aug 8 = Asuncion — WC S American gp A
PARAGUAY 1 (Struway 44)
ARGENTINA 3 (Medina Bello 15, 78, Redondo 65)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 46,500. **Ref:** Filippi (Uru)
Paraguay: Chilavert — Duarte, Rivarola, Ayala, Syarez — Struway, Acuna, Nunes (Ferreira 63), Gonzalez (Monzon 65) — Cabanas, Mendoza.
Argentina: Goycochea — F Basualdo, Borelli, Ruggeri, Altamirano — Villarreal (J Basualdo 46), Redondo, Dimeone, Rodriguez (Caceres 46) — Medina Bello, Batistuta.

Aug 8 = La Paz — WC S American gp B
BOLIVIA 3 (Sanchez 72, Etcheverry 82, Melgar 86)
URUGUAY 1 (Francescoli 89)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Guerrero (Chi)
Bolivia: Trucco — Borja, Quinteros, Rimba, Sandy, Cristaldo — Baldivieso, Melgar, R Castillo (Etcheverry 53), E Sanchez — Ramallo (Pena 84).
Uruguay: Siboldi — Herrera, Sanchez, Kanapkis, Cabrera — Moran, *Gutierrez, Zalazar, Francescoli — Gonseca (Moas 66), Sosa (Aguilera 59).
**Gutierrez sent off.*

Aug 8 = Guayaquil — WC S American gp B
ECUADOR 5 (Munoz 23, E Hurtado 40, 50, 75, Chala 60)
VENEZUELA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Lamolina (Arg)
Ecuador: Espinoza — Coronel (Zambrano 69), Capurro, Montanero, I Hurtado — Carcelen, Carabali, Munoz, Fernandez — E Hurtado, Chala (Aviles 69).
Venezuela: Gomez — Filosa, Gonzalez, H Rivas, Mathias — Mililo, Morales (C Garcia 54), Chacon (Contreras 88), S Rivas — Dolguetta, J Garcia.

Aug 8 = Maceio — friendly intl
BRAZIL 1 (Marcio Santos 49)
MEXICO 1 (Garcia Aspe 67pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,778.
Brazil: Taffarel — Cafu, Ricardo Rocha, Marcio Santos, Branco — Mauro Silva, Dunga, Palhinha (Valdeir 46), Elivelton (Valdo 46), Muller, Rai.
Mexico: Campos — Herrera, Suarez, Ramirez Perales, Ramon Ramirez, Garcia Aspe, Galindo (Rodriguez), Ambriz, Patino (Olmo), Guzma, Alves Zague.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Aug 11 = Toftir — friendly intl
FAROE ISLANDS 0
NORWAY 7 (Bohinen 6pen, Leonhardsen 9, Mjelde 27, 39, Ostenstad 74, 75, 87, J O Pedersen 76)
HT: 0-4. **Att:** 850. **Ref:** Gerner (Den)
Faroes: Johannsen (Knudsen 46) — J Jakobsen, Oli Johannesen (Justinussen 33), K Morkore, Dam, Jon Johannesen (Pall a Reynatugvu 23; Olsen 73), A Hansen, Reynheim, Mohr (Rasmussen 53), A Morkore, Arhge (Suni Fridi Johannesen 64).
Norway: Rossbach — Martinsen, T Pedersen, Eggen, Brendesaetner — J O Pedersen, Leonhardsen, Mykland (Staurvik 48), Bohinen, Flo, Mjelde (Ostenstad 72).

Aug 11 = Boras — friendly intl
SWEDEN 1 (Dahlin 17)
SWITZERLAND 2 (Knup 18, Herr 73)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 14,712. **Ref:** Amendolia (Ita)
Sweden: Ravelli (L Eriksson 46) — R Nilsson, Eriksson, P Andersson, Ljung — Limpar, Rehn (Schwarz 73), Ingesson, Landberg — Zetterberg (Bertilsson 81), Dahlin.
Switzerland: Pascoio — Ohrel, Herr, Geiger, Rothenbuhler — Sylvestre (Hottiger 77), Bregy, Sforza — Turyilmaz (Grassi 70), Knup (Quentin 86), Chapuisat.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Aug 15 = Sydney — WC Oceania/ CONCACAF play-off 2nd leg
AUSTRALIA 2 (Farina 44, Durakovic 76)
CANADA 1 (Hooper 54)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 29,000. **Ref:** Obata (Jap)
Australia 4-1 on pens
Australia: Schwarzer — Tobin, Durakovic, Ivanovic, T Vidmar — Van Blerk, Zelic (Wade 100), A Vidmar — Arnold, Farina, Slatter (Mitchell 74).
Canada: Forrest — Yallop, Samuel, Watson, Sweeney, Miller — Hooper, Dasovic (Needham 108), Mitchell — Bunburg, Mobolio (Valentine 46).

Aug 15 = Barranquilla — WC S America gp A
COLOMBIA 2 (Valenciano 2, Valencia 52)
ARGENTINA 1 (Medina Bello 87)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Aparecido de Olivares (Bra)
Colombia: Cordoba — Herrera, Perea, Mendoza, Perez — Gaviria, Lozano, Rincon, Valderrama — Valenciano (Asprilla 76), Valencia.
Argentina: Goycochea — F Basualdo, Borelli, Caceres, Altamirano — Redondo, Zapata, J H Basualdo (Zamora 46), Simeone — Medina Bello, Acosta (Leo Rodriguez 81).

Aug 15 = Asuncion — WC S America gp A
PARAGUAY 2 (Mendoza 14, Chilavert 30pen)
PERU 1 (Del Solar 44)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 30,000.
Paraguay: Chilavert — Duarte, R Sanabria, Gamarra, Suarez — Cabanas, Struway, Monzon (V Sanabria), Gonzalez — Torres, Mendoza (Acuna).
Peru: Miranda — Charundal (Valencia), Barco, Soto, Olivares — Carranza, Zegarra, Del Solar, Reynoso — Baroni (Muchotrigo), Carty.

Aug 15 = La Paz — WC S America gp B
BOLIVIA 1 (Ramallo 18)
ECUADOR 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000.
Bolivia: Trucco — Borja, Sandy, Quinteros, Rimba, Cristaldo — Melgar, E Sanchez, Baldivieso, Etcheverry (Villarroel 40), Ramallo (Pena 70).
Ecuador: Espinoza — Noriega, Tenorio, Capurro, Carabali — I Hurtado, Carcelen, Coronel, Aguinaga (Fernandez 65), Munoz (Chala 60) — E Hurtado.

Aug 15 = Montevideo — WC S America gp B
URUGUAY 1 (Fonseca 79)
BRAZIL 1 (Marcio Santos 28)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Bava (Arg)
Uruguay: Siboldi — Sanguinetti, Kanapkis, Sanchez, Cabrera — Ostolaza (Zalazar 71), Moran, Francescoli — Fonseca, Aguilera, Sosa (Paz 59).
Brazil: Taffarel — Jorginho, Marcio Santos, Ricardo Rocha, Branco — Dunga, Mauro Silva, Zinho, Rai — Bebeto (Antonio CArlos 71), Muller (Vldeir 84).

Aug 15 = Pointe-Noire — African Nations gp 6
CONGO 0
GUINEA 0
Att: 6,000
** Guinea and Burundi to play off for place in finals.*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

Aug 22 = Stockholm/Solna — WC Euro gp 6
SWEDEN 1 (Dahlin 89)
FRANCE 1 (Sauzee 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,530. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (Ger)
Sweden: Ravelli — R Bilsson, Eriksson, P Andersson, Ljung — Ingesson, Zetteberg (Rehn 70), Thern, Landberg (Limpar 81) — Dahlin, Brolin.
France: Lama — Desailly, Roche, Blanc, Lizarazu — Deschamps, Le Guen, Pedros (Vahirua 81), Sauzee — Papin, Cantona.

Aug 22 = Asuncion — WC S America gp A
PARAGUAY 1 (Rivarola 54)
COLOMBIA 1 (Rincon 22)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Rezende (Bra)
Paraguay: Chilavert — Darte (Barrios 46), Rivarola, Ayala, Suarez — Acuna, Struway, Cabanas, Gonzalez — Torres, Mendoza.
Colombia: Cordoba — Herrera, Perea (Gaviria 71), Mendoza, Perez — Gomez, Alvarez, Valderrama, Rincon — Valenciano (Asprilla 46), Valencia.

Aug 22 = Buenos Aires — WC S America gp A
ARGENTINA 2 (Batistuta 32, Medina Bello 37)
PERU 1 (Palacios 66)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 60,00. **Ref:** Nieves Parra (Uru)
Argentina: Goycochea — Craviotto, Ruggeri, Borelli, Caceres (Altamirano 27) — Zapata, Redondo, Gorosito, Leo Rodriguez (J H Basualdo 70) — Medina Bello, Batistuta.
Peru: Miranda — Carranza, Reynoso, Barco, Olivares — Soto, Del Solar, Palacios, Zegarra — B Gonzalez (Muchotrigo 65), Baroni (Maestri 86).

Aug 22 = Sao Paulo — WC S America gp B
BRAZIL 2 (Bebeto 34, Dunga 54)
ECUADOR 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 77,916. **Ref:** Torres Cadena (Col)
Brazil: Taffarel — Jorginho, Marcio Santos, Ricardo Gomes, Branco (Cafu 75) — Dunga, Mauro Silva, Zinho (Palhinha 81) — Bebeto, Muller.
Ecuador: Espinoza — Tenorio, I Hurtado, Capurro — Coronel, Carcelen, Carabali, Fernandez (Gavica 77), Munoz (Aviles 675), Chala — E Hurtado.

Aug 22 = La Paz — WC S America gp B
BOLIVIA 7 (Ramallo 9, Melgar 58, 80, Sanchez 70, Sandy 75, Etcheverry 79, 82)
VENEZUELA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Farina (Par)
Bolivia: Truco — Borja, Sandy, Quinteros, Rimba — Villarroel (Castillo 70), Cristaldo, Melgar, Etcheverry — Sanchez, Ramallo (Pena 70).
Venezuela: Gomez — Filosa, J GArcia (C Garcia 30), Tortolero, Etchenausi — Contreras, Hernandez, Rodriguez, Gonzalez — Rivas (Morales 46), Escobar.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Aug 25 = Copenhagen — WC Euro gp 3
DENMARK 4 (L Olsen 13, Pingel 44, B Laudrup 64, Skarbalius og 71)
LITHUANIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 40,282. **Ref:** Bergman (Ice)
Denmark: Schmeichel — L Olsen, Rieper, Kjeldbjerg, Friis- Hansen — J Jensen (Hough 81), Vilfort, Steen Nielsen — M Laudrup, B Laudrup, Pingel.
Lithuania: Stauce — Ziukas, Mazeikis, Baltsinikas, Teresnikas — Skarbalius, Baranauskasm Olshanskis — Stumbrys (Apanavicius 57), Kirilovas (Urbonas 69), Sleyks.

Aug 25 = Vienna — WC Euro fp 6
AUSTRIA 3 (Kuhbauer 28, Pfeifenberger 41, Herzog 89pen)
FINLAND 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 21,000. **Ref:** Listkiewicz (Pol)
Austria: Wohlfahrt — Kogler, Streiter, Pfeffer, Feirsinger (Flogel 82) — Artner, P Stoger, Herzog, Kuhbauer (Baur 83) — A Ogris, Pfeifenberger.
Finland: Jakonen — Kinnunen, Kanerva, Heikkinen, Petaja — Suominen, Lindberg (Ruhanen 68), Hjelm, Rajamaki — Litmanen (Gronholm 76), Paatalainen.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Aug 29 = Barranquilla — WC S America gp A
COLOMBIA 4 (Valenciano 40, Rincon 44, Mendoza 66, Perez 76)
PERU 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Pablo Pena (Bol)
Colombia: O Cordoba — W Cabrera, Perea, A Mendoza, W Perez — Alvarez, G J Gomez, Rincon, Valderrama — Valenciano, Asprilla.
Peru: Miranda — Carranza, Reynoso, J Soto, Olivares (C Charun 74) — A Barca, Del Solar, J Soto, Zegarra — A Gonzalez (Muchotrigo 46), Baroni.

Aug 29 = Buenos Aires/Monumental — WC S America gp A
ARGENTINA 0
PARAGUAY 0
Att: 60,000. **Ref:** Orellana (Ecu)
Argentina: Goycochea — Basualdo, Borelli, Ruggeri, Altamirano — Zapata, Redondo (Leo Rodriguez 63), Simeone, Gorosito (Zamora 70) — Medina Bello, Batistuta.
Paraguay: Chilavert — Barrios, Rivarola, Suarez, Ayala — Struway, G Gonzalez (Jara 85), Sanabria, Acuna — C Torres, Mendoza (Ferreira 63).

Auf 29 = Recife — WC S America gp B
BRAZIL 6 (Rai 12, Muller 18, Bebeto 22, 60, Branco 36, Ricardo 44)
BOLIVIA 0
HT: 5-0. **Att:** 76,636. **Ref:** Velasquez (Par)
Brazil: Taffarel — Jorginho, Richardo Rocha, Ricardo Gomes, Branco — Mauro Silva, Dunga, Rai, Zinho (Palhinha 55) — Bebeto (Evair 71), Muller.
Bolivia: Trucco — Rimba, Borja, Sandy, Quinteros, Cristaldo — Melgar, Baldivieso, Sanchez, Etcheverry (Juan Pena 41) — Ramallo (Alvaro Pena 71).

Aug 29 = Montevideo — WC S America gp B
URUGUAY 4 (Kanapkis 7, 31, Cedres 41, Sosa 64)
VENEZUELA 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 60,000.

Uruguay: Sibondi — Mendez, Herrera, Kanapkis, Soca (De los Santos) — Dorta, Gutierrez, Francescoli — Aguilera (Paz), Cedres.
Venezuela: Gomez — H Rivas, *Gonzalez, C Garcia, Filosa — Echenausi (Contreras), Mathias, Paezpumar, Chacon — S Rivas, J Garcia (Rodriguez).
**Gonzalez sent off.*

CHAMPIONS CUP
Preliminary round, 1st leg
(August 18)

B68 TOFTIR 0
CROATIA ZAGREB 5 (Cvitanovic 15, Leshak 32, Vlaovic 44, Turkovic 84, Adzic 89)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 1,000.

CWMBRAN TOWN 3 (King 4pen, Ford 25, 27)
CORK CITY 2 (Caulfield 62, Buckley 75)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 8,000.

EKRANAS 0
FLORIANA 1

HJK HELSINKI 1 (Heinola 15)
NORMA TALLINN 1 (Borisov 16)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 2,000.

OMONIA 2 (Shilikashvili 15, 61)
FC AARAU 1 (Ratinho 62)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000.

ROSENBORG TRONDHEIM 2 (Bragstad 9, Loken 54)
AVENIR BEGGEN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 789. **Ref:** Meese (Bel)

SKONTO RIGA 0
OLIMPIJA LJUBLJANA 1 (Milinovic 16)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Esafsson (Swe)

TBILISI DYNAMO 2 (Arveladze, Inalishvili)
LINFIELD 1 (Johnston)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000.

ZIMBRUL 1 (Revda 83)
BEITAR JERUSALEM 1 (Harazi 10)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.

PARTIZAN TIRANA 0
IA AKRANES 0
Att: 8,000 (Aug 22).

CHAMPIONS CUP
Preliminary round, 2nd leg
(September 1)

FC AARAU 2 (Stiel 6, Heldmann 38)
OMONIA NICOSIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,000.
Aarau 3-2 on agg

IA AKRANES 3 (Hognason 70, Gudjohnsson 74, 81)
PARTIZAN TIRANA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,200.
IA Akranes 3-0 on agg

BEITAR JERUSALEM 2 (R Harazi 5, Greshnayev 72pen)
ZIMBRUL 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000
Beitar 3-1 on agg

CORK CITY 2 (Morley 74, Glynn 85)
CWMBRAN TOWN 1 (McNeil 7)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000
Cork on away goals rule. 4-4 agg

CROATIA 6 (Zivkovic 17, Vlaovic 53, 84, 88, 89, Halilovic 74)
B68 TOFTIR 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000.
Croatia 11-0 on agg

FLORIANA 1 (Buttigieg 60)
EKRANAS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,000.
Floriana 2-0 on agg

LINFIELD 1 (Haylock 71)
TBILISI DYNAMO 1 (Arveladze 46)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000.
Tbilisi 3-2 on agg

NORMA TALLINN 0
HJK HELSINKI 1 (Belokhovostov og 51)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 200.
HJK 2-1 on agg

OLIMPIJA LJUBLJANA 0
SKONTO RIGA 1 (Proitski 68)
HT: 0-0. **90min:** 0-0. **Att:** 1,000.
Skonto 12-10 on pens. 1-1 agg

ROSENBORG TRONDHEIM 1 (Skammelsrud 70)
AVENIR BEGGEN 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,481.
Rosenborg 3-0 on agg

CUP-WINNERS CUP
Preliminary round, 1st leg
(August 18)

FC BALZERS 3
ALBETROL PATOSI 1
Att: 500 (Aug 15)

RAF JELGAVA 0
HAVNAR BOLTFELAG 1
Att: 1,000 (Aug 17)

STADE DUDELANGE 0
MACCABI HAIFA 1 (Mizrahi 39)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,363 (Aug 17).

LUGANO 5 (Andrioli 37, 83, Subiat 59, Fink 68, Penzavali 87)
NEMAN GRODNO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,000.

VALUR 3 (Gregory 52, 59, Larusson 70)
MyPa ANJALANKOSKI 1 (Rajamaki 34)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 2,000.

SLIEMA WANDERERS 1 (Gregory 67)
DEGERFORS 3 (Octosson 6, 30, Froberg 52)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 4,000.

BANGOR 1 (McEvoy 24)
APOEL 1 (Sotiriou 45)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 4,500.

NIKOL TALLINN 0
LILLESTROM 4 (Karlsson 4, Gulbandsen 8, Schiller 37, Bjarmann 42)
HT: 0-4. **Att:** 7,500.

KOSICE 2 (Danko 20, Podegayev 40)
ZALGIRIS VILNIUS 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 6,000.

KARPATY LVOV 1 (Yevtushok)
SHELBOURNE 0
Att: 25,000.

PUBLIKUM CELJE 0
ODENSE 1 (Nedergaard 82)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,000.

CUP-WINNERS CUP
Preliminary round, 2nd leg
(September 1)

ALBPETROL PATOS 0
FC BALZERS 0
Att: 2,500 (Aug 31)
Balzers (Liecht) 3-1 on agg

DEGERFORS 3 (Ottosson 3, Froberg 15, Eriksson 63pen)
SLIEMA WANDERERS 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,019 (Sep 2)
Degerfors 6-1 on agg

HAVNAR BOLTFELAG w/o
RAF RIGA
Havnar won first leg 1-0; RAF Riga failed to turn up for the return

APOEL NICOSIA 2 (Mihajlovic 15, Pounas 69)
BANGOR 1 (Glendining 4)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 15,000.
APOEL 3-2 on agg

LILLESTROM 4 (Gulbrandsen 35, Bergdolmo 38, Mjelde 40, MacManus 71)
NIKOL TALLINN 1 (Arendas 70)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 1,120.
Lillestrom 8-1 on agg

MACCABI HAIFA 6 (Mizrahi 25, 51pen, Kondoroav 32, Atar 56, Holtzman 74, Harazi 77)
STADE DUDELANGE 1 (Olhauzen 89)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 3,500.
Maccabi 7-1 on agg

MyPa 0
VALUR 1 (Larusson 68)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,000.
Valur 4-1 on agg

NEMAN GRODNO 2 (Solodobvnikov 61, Mazurchik 70)
LUGANO 1 (Subiat 29)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000.
Lugano 6-2 on agg

ODENSE 0
PUBLIKUM 0
Att: 2,525.
Odense 1-0 on agg

SHELBOURNE 3 (Costello 9, Mooney 67, Izzi 76)
KARPATY LVOV 1 (Masur 88)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000.
Shelbourne 3-2 on agg

ZALGIRIS VILNIUS 0
FC KOSICE 1 (Durisa 13)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000.
FC Kosice 3-0 on agg

TABLES

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FK Austria	7	5	0	2	16	8	10
Austria Salzburg	7	4	1	2	7	4	9
VfB Modling	7	4	1	2	7	6	9
Innsbruck	7	2	4	1	9	7	8
Admira Wacker	7	3	2	2	8	8	8
Sturm Graz	7	3	1	3	11	12	7
Rapid Wien	7	2	2	3	9	8	6
St Polten	7	3	0	4	8	11	6
Vorwarts Steyr	7	2	1	4	13	10	5
Sportclub	7	0	2	5	4	18	2

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cannes	6	3	3	0	9	6	9
Bordeaux	6	3	2	1	8	3	8
Nantes	6	3	2	1	5	2	8
Martigues	6	2	3	1	10	6	7
Monaco	6	3	1	2	9	5	7
Lyon	6	3	1	2	9	7	7
Auxerre	6	2	3	1	7	5	7
Paris SG	6	3	1	2	7	5	7
Strasbourg	6	1	5	0	6	5	7
Marseille	6	2	3	1	4	3	7
Sochaux	6	2	2	2	8	6	6
Saint-Etienne	6	1	3	2	5	5	5
Metz	6	1	3	2	5	6	5
Angers	6	2	1	3	6	10	5
Caen	6	2	1	3	4	9	5
Lille	6	0	4	2	6	8	4
Lens	6	1	2	3	2	4	4
Le Havre	6	0	4	2	3	7	4
Montpellier	6	1	2	3	4	9	4
Toulouse	6	0	4	2	3	9	4

GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ein. Frankfurt	4	3	1	0	12	3	7
Werder Bremen	4	3	1	0	13	6	7
Bayer Leverkusen	4	3	1	0	8	5	7
Hamburg	4	3	0	1	10	5	6
Bayern Munich	4	2	1	1	11	5	5
Duisburg	4	1	3	0	6	5	5
Kaiserslautern	4	2	0	2	8	6	4
Karlsruhe	4	2	0	2	5	4	4
Bor. Dortmund	4	2	0	2	6	6	4
Koln	4	2	0	2	4	5	4
Wattenscheid	4	1	1	2	6	7	3
Leipzig	3	0	2	1	5	7	2
VfB Stuttgart	3	0	2	1	5	9	2
Freiburg	4	1	0	3	7	8	2
Borussia Mg	4	1	0	3	4	9	2
Dynamo Dresden	4	0	2	2	4	10	2
Schalke	4	1	0	3	3	9	2
Nurnberg	4	1	0	3	4	12	2

Dresden four points deducted

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	8	4	2	2	14	7	10
Lugano	8	5	0	3	10	8	10
Aarau	8	4	2	2	11	9	10
FC Zurich	7	3	3	1	6	2	9
Lausanne	7	4	1	2	9	8	9
Sion	8	3	3	2	12	7	9
Servette	8	3	3	2	12	11	9
Young Boys	8	2	3	3	10	8	7
Lucerne	8	2	3	3	8	10	7
Neuchatel	8	2	3	3	11	14	7
Yverdon	8	1	3	4	6	13	5
Kriens	8	0	2	6	7	19	2

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	5	5	0	0	20	5	10
Lommel	5	3	1	1	10	6	7
Charleroi	5	3	1	1	8	5	7
Club Brugge	5	2	0	3	6	4	7
Standard Liege	5	2	1	2	4	2	6
Ostend	5	1	0	4	9	5	6
Gent	5	1	0	4	5	3	6
Seraing	5	2	2	1	6	3	5
Antwerp	5	2	2	1	7	9	5
Ekeren	5	1	1	3	7	6	5
FC Liege	5	1	1	3	5	10	5
Beveren	5	0	0	5	3	3	5
Mechelen	5	1	2	2	5	5	4
Lierse	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Cercle Bruges	5	1	2	2	8	11	4
RWD Molenbeek	5	1	3	1	5	11	3
Waregem	5	0	4	1	6	14	1
Genk	5	0	5	0	5	16	0

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	6	5	1	0	14	3	16
Arsenal	6	4	1	1	7	5	13
Liverpool	6	4	0	2	13	4	12
Coventry	6	3	3	0	11	6	12
Norwich	6	3	2	1	11	7	11
Aston Villa	6	3	2	1	9	5	11
Ipswich	6	3	2	1	7	3	11
Blackburn	6	3	2	1	9	6	11
Tottenham	6	3	1	2	5	4	10
Wimbledon	6	2	3	1	8	6	9
Everton	6	3	0	3	7	6	9
QPR	6	3	0	3	10	11	9
Sheffield Utd	6	2	1	3	9	12	7
Leeds	6	2	1	3	4	9	7
Chelsea	6	1	3	2	6	6	6
Newcastle	6	1	3	2	5	6	6
Manchester City	6	1	2	3	5	7	5
Oldham	6	1	2	3	5	9	5
West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	11	4
Southampton	6	1	0	5	7	10	3
Sheffield Wed	6	0	3	3	4	9	3
Swindon	6	0	1	5	3	17	1

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Motherwell	5	3	1	1	9	7	7
Hearts	5	3	1	1	5	3	7
Aberdeen	5	2	3	0	4	2	7
Rangers	5	2	2	1	6	5	6
Dundee Utd	5	1	4	0	5	4	6
St Johnstone	5	1	3	1	6	4	5
Hibernian	5	1	3	1	4	3	5
Kilmarnock	5	2	1	2	4	4	5
Celtic	5	1	3	1	4	4	5
Raith	5	0	3	2	5	9	3
Partick	5	0	2	3	4	7	2
Dundee	5	0	2	3	3	7	2

WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aberystwyth	4	3	1	0	9	3	10
Bangor	4	3	0	1	11	5	9
Inter Cardiff	3	3	0	0	5	2	9
Flint Town Utd	4	2	2	0	5	3	8
Connah's Quay	4	2	1	1	11	6	7
Ebbw Vale	4	2	1	1	10	6	7
Llansantfraid	4	2	1	1	5	2	7
Cwmbran Town	4	2	1	1	3	2	7
Holywell Town	4	2	0	2	8	7	6
Briton Ferry	4	1	2	1	8	8	5
Ton Pentre	4	1	2	1	4	6	5
Conwy Utd	4	1	1	2	6	6	4
Afan Lido	4	1	1	2	6	7	4
Haverfordwest	4	1	1	2	3	4	4
Newtown	4	1	1	2	3	4	4
Maesteg	3	1	1	1	4	7	4
Caersws	4	0	3	1	4	5	3
CPD Portmadog	4	1	0	3	4	9	3
Llanelli	4	0	1	3	4	12	1
Mold Alexandra	4	0	0	4	7	14	0

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Torino	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Milan	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
Parma	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
Sampdoria	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Inter	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Atalanta	2	1	0	1	6	4	2
Cremonese	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Genoa	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Foggia	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Juventus	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Udinese	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Roma	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Lazio	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Reggiana	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Lecce	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Napoli	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Cagliari	2	0	0	2	3	7	0
Piacenza	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	4	4	0	0	11	1	8
Roda JC	4	4	0	0	12	6	8
PSV	4	3	1	0	7	2	7
NAC Breda	4	3	0	1	10	5	6
Heerenveen	3	2	1	0	2	0	5
Feyenoord	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
Vitesse	3	2	0	1	7	2	4
FC Twente	4	2	0	2	6	3	4
Volendam	4	1	1	2	6	7	3
Sparta	4	1	1	2	3	6	3
Groningen	3	1	0	2	6	7	2
MVV Maastricht	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
VVV Venlo	3	1	0	2	3	7	2
GA Eagles	4	1	0	3	6	9	2
Willem II	4	1	0	3	2	6	2
RKC Waalwijk	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
Utrecht	4	0	1	3	3	11	1
Cambuur	4	0	0	4	2	10	0

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boavista	2	2	0	0	6	2	4
Sporting	2	2	0	0	5	3	4
Guimaraes	2	1	1	0	3	0	3
Estoril	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Beira-Mar	2	1	0	1	3	1	2
Uniao	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Salgueiros	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Farense	2	1	0	1	1	3	2
Maritimo	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Spt. Braga	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Benfica	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Belenenses	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Pacos Ferreira	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Setubal	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Amadora	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
FC Porto	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Gil Vicente	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Famalicao	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fenerbahce	2	2	0	0	6	4	6
Kocaelispor	2	2	0	0	5	3	6
Gazianetpspor	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Galatasaray	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Samsunspor	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Ankaragucu	2	1	0	1	5	4	3
Besiktas	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Genclerbirligi	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Kayserispor	2	1	0	1	3	5	3
Trabzonspor	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Bursaspor	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Sariyer	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Karsiyaka	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Karbuksor	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Zeytinburnuspor	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Altay	2	0	0	2	2	5	0

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Aris	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Panathinaikos	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
PAOK	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Larissa	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Athinaikos	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Kalamaria	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Iraklis	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Levadiakos	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Olympiakos	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
OFI Crete	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Edessaikos	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Xanthi	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Panachaiki	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Doxa Drama	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Naoussa	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Panionios	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Apollon	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lech Poznan	10	6	2	2	15	9	14
Gornik Zabrze	10	5	4	1	18	13	14
Pogon Szczecin	10	4	5	1	11	5	13
Warta Poznan	10	6	0	4	11	8	12
Hutnik Krakow	10	4	4	3	9	6	12
Ruch Chorzow	10	4	3	3	12	9	11
GKS Katowice	10	4	3	3	13	13	11
Legia Warsaw	10	4	5	1	18	10	10
Widzew Lodz	10	3	4	3	15	17	10
TM Pniewy	10	3	3	4	12	9	9
Zaglebie Lubin	10	3	3	4	10	14	9
LKS Lodz	10	4	3	3	14	11	8
Siarka Tarnobrzeg	10	3	2	5	12	14	8
Stal Mielec	10	3	2	5	10	16	8
Wisla Krakow	10	3	4	3	12	11	7
Z. Bydgoszcz	10	2	3	5	11	15	7
Stal Stalowa Wola	10	0	5	5	3	11	5
Polonia Warsaw	10	0	3	7	7	22	3

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Univ. Craiova	3	3	0	0	9	2	6
Steaua Bucharest	3	2	1	0	5	0	5
Farul Constanta	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
FC Inter Sibiu	3	2	1	0	3	0	5
Univ. Cluj	3	2	0	1	7	4	4
UT Arad	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
Progresul	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
FC Brasov	3	1	2	0	1	0	4
Sportul Student.	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Dinamo	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
DU Braila	3	1	1	1	1	3	3
Otelul Galati	3	1	0	2	3	3	2
Gloria Bistrita	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Petrolul Ploiesti	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Ceahlaul	3	1	0	2	2	6	2
Rapid Bucharest	3	0	0	3	1	5	0
Electro. Craiova	3	0	0	3	0	4	0
Poli. Timisoara	3	0	0	3	3	10	0

RUSSIA

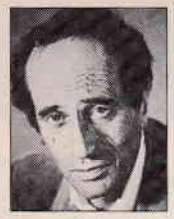
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spartak Moscow	23	16	6	1	63	14	38
Rotor Volgograd	24	12	6	6	37	22	30
Torpedo Moscow	24	12	5	7	23	27	29
Dyn. Moscow	23	10	7	6	38	26	27
Lok. Moscow	23	10	6	7	29	20	26
Uralmash	24	11	3	10	33	38	25
Sptk Vladikavkaz	24	10	5	9	32	34	25
Tekstilschcik	24	8	8	8	30	28	24
Kamaz NC	24	9	3	12	31	37	21
Lok. Novgorod	23	8	5	10	23	32	21
Okean Nahhodka	23	7	7	9	19	22	21
Dyn. Stavropol	24	7	7	10	27	31	21
Krylya Sovetov	24	6	9	9	28	33	21
Zhemchuzhina	24	6	9	9	37	43	21
CSKA Moscow	23	8	3	12	30	31	19
Rostselmash	24	6	7	11	22	35	19
L. Vladivostok	23	6	7	10	17	31	19
Asmaral Moscow	23	6	5	12	18	33	17

SLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Bratislava	3	3	0	0	13	4	6
Slovan Bratislava	3	2	1	0	10	4	5
Banik Prievidza	3	2	1	0	4	0	5
DAC D. Streda	3	2	0	1	5	2	4
Chemlon	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
Spartak Trnava	3	1	1	1	3	4	3
Lok. Kosice	3	1	1	1	2	7	3
SK Zilina	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Tatran Presov	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
FC Kosice	3	0	2	1	2	7	2
D Banska Bystrica	3	0	1	2	1	7	1
FC Nitra	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

UKRAINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kiev Dynamo	4	4	0	0	10	4	8
Chernomorets	4	3	1	0	7	2	7
Shakhtyor	4	3	1	0	6	1	7
Tavria	4	2	1	1	7	4	5
Nyva Ternopil	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Veres	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Metalist	4	1	2	1	4	4	4
Karpaty Lvov	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
Zorya	4	2	0	2	5	8	4
Kryvbas	4	1	1	2	3	2	3
Dnipro	4	1	1	2	5	5	3
Volyn	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
Temp	4	0	3	1	2	3	3
Bukovina	4	1	1	2	2	4	3
Kremin	4	1	1	2	1	3	3
Torpedo	4	0	2	2	0	2	2
Metalurg	4	1	0	3	1	7	2
Nyva Vinnitsya	4	0	1	3	1	8	1



BRIAN GLANVILLE'S LAST WORD

Picking our way through a minefield

THE results of the colossal "Choose your own World Cup squad" canvas by American Airlines and the US World Cup committee have begun to come in.

As one of those responsible for setting the whole thing in motion, I am fascinated, reassured and mildly guilt ridden.

When our small committee originally met, I suggested two criteria: that a player had figured in the World Cup finals, and that he had excelled.

In a preliminary breakdown, Pele quite properly tops the list. I was very happy to see that all 11 of my choices for the team were on the slate, though not entirely happy about how some of them finished.

Gordon Banks, for example. Lev Yashin lies ahead of him. Now, over the years, there is a good case for stating that Yashin was the finest keeper of his era. But if we are talking about World Cups, then it is surely another story.

Banks won a World Cup winner's medal in 1966, which is more than Yashin ever did.

In 1970, Banks made what was probably the most amazing save ever seen in a World Cup, when he managed somehow to flail that header from Pele over the bar in Guadalajara, as Pele was already crying "GO-O-O-L!"

Yashin played in the 1958, 62 and 66 World Cups and I do not think we saw him at his best. True, he was a formidable figure in Gothenburg in 58, but I still wonder if he shouldn't have saved that towering header by Derek Kevan, who thus gave England a 2-2 draw when first they met the Soviets, only to go out in a play-off.

In the 1962 quarter-finals, a couple of utterly untypical blunders by Yashin allowed two long shots to pass him, putting Chile in the semi-final. A bad World Cup for Lev, indeed.

In 1966, in the semi-final against West Germany, he let a shot from Franz Beckenbauer curl tantalisingly around him. The USSR lost and their manager blamed Yashin for that goal.

I saw that match and felt that he was hard done by. Overall he had played a brave, competent game, and Franz's curler was very hard to reach. But still and all, if you are bidding to be the best goalkeeper in World Cup finals, this is not the ideal record.

Ironic indeed that Just Fontaine is in the squad but Raymond Kopa is not. Fontaine's 13 goals in the 58 tournament in Sweden were not what they seemed, with four of them scored — I was there — in a meaningless third-place match against a weakened German team.

In any case, Fontaine, though he took his chances so well, was essentially the marionette, for whom Kopa pulled the strings.

The fact that Fontaine is in and Kopa is out shows the shallowness of some voters; or their ignorance.

We were not called upon to vote for the finest TEAM (or 20-odd players) of all time; just for the WORLD CUP squad. In which case, Ferenc Puskas, though unquestionably one of the outstanding footballers of all time, scarcely deserves to be on the list at all, let alone so far ahead of another great inside-left, Juan Schiaffino of Uruguay, who scored a memorable goal in the 1950 decider and was again in glorious form in 1954.

Puskas could well have won, rather than arguably lost, the World Cup for Hungary that year had he not been kicked by Werner Liebrich, the German stopper, in his team's opening game.

Hungary, without Puskas, did wonderfully well, Czibor moving from the wing to inside-left. But before the final, Ferenc talked his way back into the team, even though not fully fit, and moreover allegedly talked Budai, the right-winger, out of it.

Puskas clearly was not wholly fit in this second tilt against Germany, who won 3-2 after a dubious offside decision had robbed Puskas of a late equaliser.

Statistics clearly do not always influence the choice, otherwise Geoff Hurst would be on the list. After all, three goals in a World Cup Final, even if one of them was the most controversial of any, are worth a good deal more than Fontaine's four in a third-place match.

Another problem in such polling is always that of time. I was happy indeed to see so many great names from the distant past in the list, such as Meazza of Italy, Andrade and Varela of Uruguay, all heroes of two World Cups, but Spaniards will be displeased not to see the glorious Ricardo Zamora among those chosen.

His performance against Italy in 1934, despite much maltreatment, was superb. The Italians were held to a 1-1 draw and it's said that they got their goal only because Zamora was held down. They won the return 1-0, but Zamora's injuries prevented him from playing.

Oddly enough, Zamora's worst international ever occurred at Highbury in late 1931, when the crowd stormed the gates, so keen were they to see the Spanish team.

Two years earlier, in hot Madrid, they had become the first Continental side ever to beat England.

What they saw in the mud was a demoralised Zamora let in goal after sloppy goal. England won 7-1.

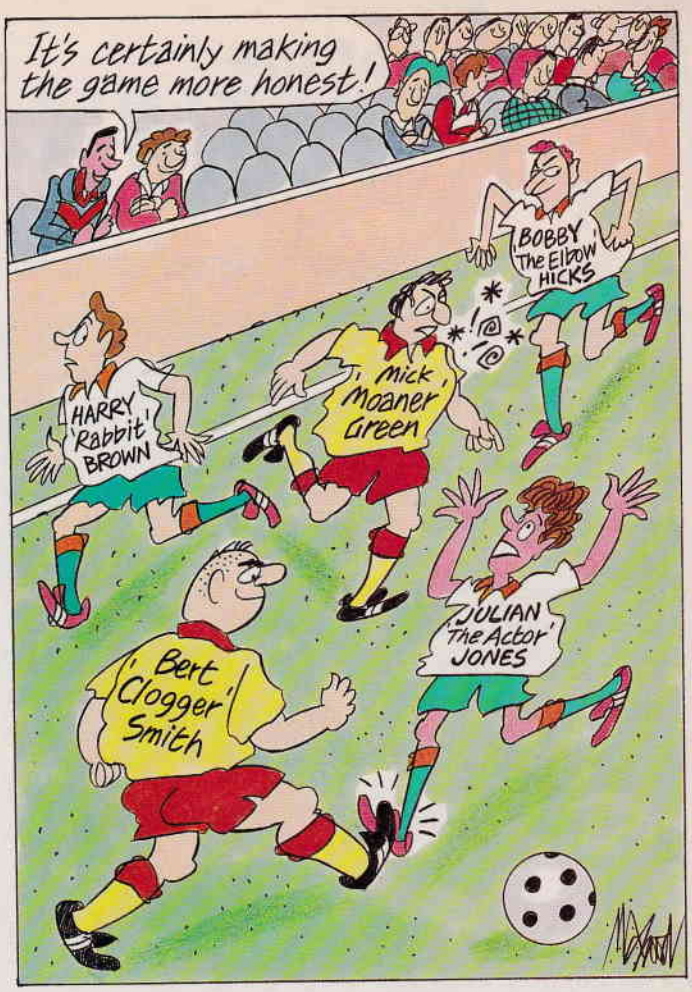
I only once met Dixie Dean, who had been in storming form that day, and he told me that he had talked through an interpreter to Zamora at the post-match banquet.

"He says he is nothing in Madrid tonight," the interpreter told Dean.

"Tell him he isn't much here, either," was the reply.

Lucky . . . Lev Yashin (left) is fortunate to be ahead of Gordon Banks in the voting.
Unlucky . . . Raymond Kopa (below, far left) is absent from the list while Just Fontaine is in.

Open doors and bargain prices



NEW RULES have emerged from the Department of Employment over the signing of players from outside the EC.

I cannot say they fill me with any great glee or assurance, any more than did those of last season.

You may recall that 12 full international caps were allegedly required to make a non-EC player eligible for the Football League.

Then it was discovered that Ipswich's new Bulgarian, Bontcho Guentchev, had not played a single full international, but he was allowed to stay on. Chiefly, it appeared, on the basis of a goal he scored with a spectacular overhead kick.

Now a player must have been a regular international choice, playing at least 75 per cent of his country's games in the previous season.

Jurgen Sommer, the goalkeeper whom Luton have managed to sign, is one doubtful case. Sommer is an American, though well away from the current US national team. But his father is a German; so in he comes.

Tony Carbone, the Australian youth international who recently signed for Nottingham Forest, is in the same sort of boat. He has an Italian father. And then there is the new midfielder for Newcastle, Nikki Papavasiliou, who had been playing in Crete.

How had the Magpies managed to sign him? The answer, I gathered, was that he managed to prove to the D of E that he had Greek nationality.

This kind of exploiting, if not bending, of the rules is bound to happen when the rules themselves are somewhat silly.

Last season, Millwall were able to sign Kasey Keller, the American goalkeeper who had played seven, but not 12, times for the national team.

Good thing for Keller and Millwall. He had an absolutely outstanding season, and has been capped again. His exclusion from the US teams in three tournaments last summer was strongly criticised. But strictly he should not have been allowed to play here. Quite daft.

The other side of the coin is that any old EC player can come in, because the compromise engineered by the late, crafty Artemio Franchi when president of UEFA, has been brushed aside by the busy-bodies of the EC.

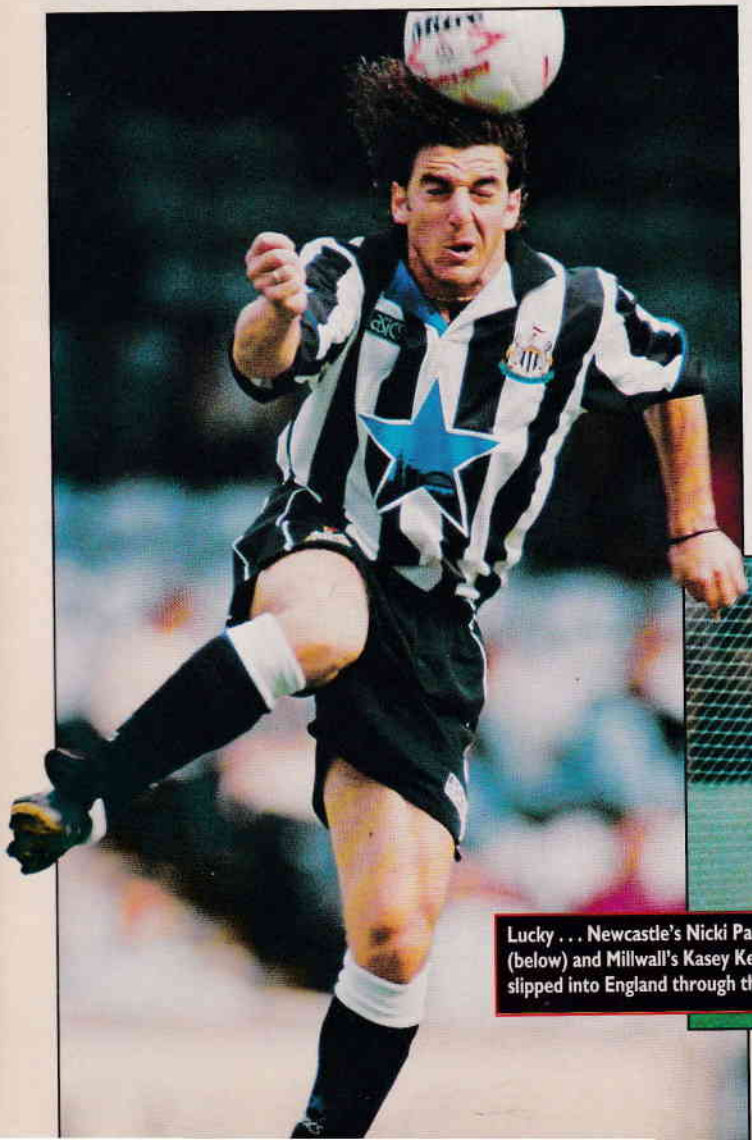
Footballers have not been recognised as a special case and although, as we know, there are limitations on how many can actually play at any one time for a club, there are no rules to stop clubs from signing EC players ad lib.

Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the PFA, does not want native players to be kept out of the club sides by cheap labour. But the fact is that players from the Eastern European countries, Russia and the rest, are not coming in on the cheap at all.

Indeed, large sums have been paid for the likes of Dmitri Kharin, the Chelsea goalkeeper from Moscow, and bustling Andrei Kan-cheslskis, the powerful right-winger from Ukrainian-Lithuanian parentage, now with Manchester United.

If anything, it is players with slightly doubtful European qualifications who are coming in at bargain prices, which is hardly what Gordon Taylor desired.

My view is that each case of a player outside the EC would be better taken on its own merits. So a centre-forward such as Oleg Salenko, who nearly went last season from Kiev Dynamo to Spurs for a big fee, would be allowed in. Yes, it could complicate and prolong the process a little. But at least some sort of justice might be done.



Lucky . . . Newcastle's Nicki Papavasiliou (below) and Millwall's Kasey Keller (right) both slipped into England through the back door.

A to Z of the WORLD'S GREAT GROUNDS

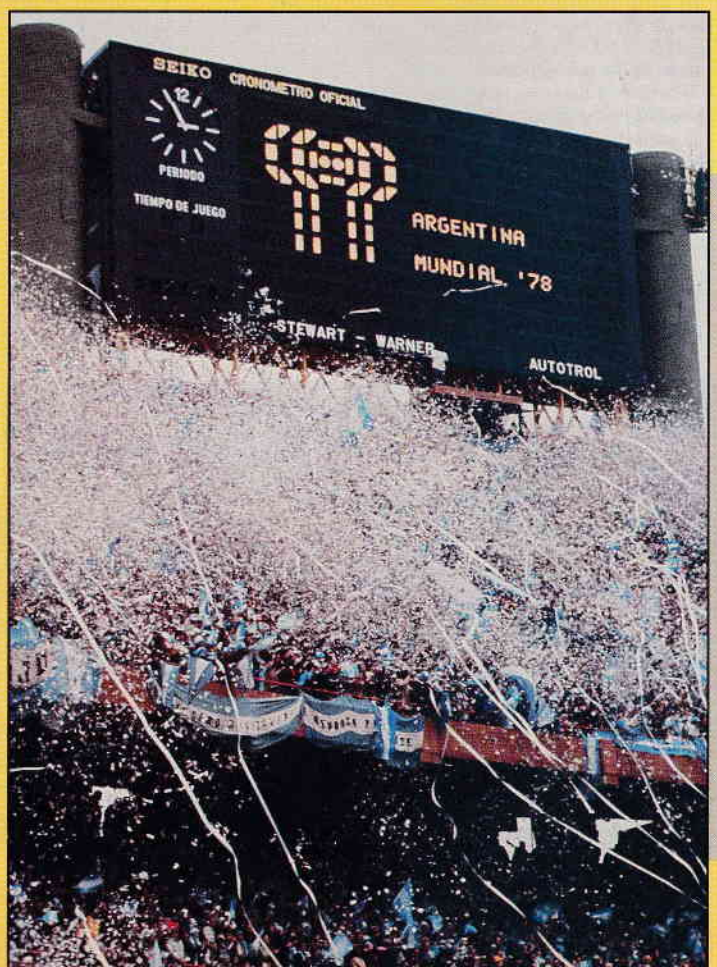
BY SIMON INGLIS

BARI

Name: Stadio San Nicola
Capacity: 59,000 all-seated
Opened: 1990
Location: Carbonara — not just a tasty pasty dish but an outlying district of Bari.
● Be honest — before Italia '90, had you heard of Bari?
Beautiful stadium: light, airy, with a British-designed roof sculpted to perfection — rightly venerated by architectural buffs. Cost £60 million and was named after Saint Nicholas, better known as Santa Claus. But was it a gift?
Never filled to capacity during World Cup — not even for the third-place play-off, Italy v England — then graced by the dreadful 1991 Champions' Cup Final.
Current Platt-less Bari team now in mid-Serie B, watched in 1992-93 by average 10-12,000.
Right stadium (apart from athletics track) but wrong place.
World Soccer rating: 6 (out of 10)

BERNABEU (Real Madrid)

Name: Estadio Santiago Bernabeu.
Capacity: 106,000.
Opened: December 14, 1947, remodelled 1954, 1982 and 1993.
Location: Castellana — just about the most prominent street in central Madrid — almost opposite the Ministry of Culture.
Big matches: World Cup Final 1982, European Cup Finals 1957, 1969 and 1980.
● Much to the chagrin of Atletico, whose own stadium is showing signs of concrete fatigue, the Estadio Bernabeu is not only a major Madrid institution and landmark (highlighted on all the maps) but is in the process of being vastly improved.
Named in 1955 after the former player, club president and lawyer whose initiative led to the stadium's construction, the Bernabeu was expanded and neatly roofed on three sides for the 1982 World Cup, when it held 92,200. But, for all its scale and aura, it was still relatively basic and hardly comfortable, and has not staged a major UEFA game since 1980 (unlike Nou Camp).
The current £14 million refurbishment includes raising the roof by eight metres to allow an extra tier of seats, though thankfully (due to lack of funds) the uncovered *anfiteatro*, flanked by the two distinctive neon-tipped towers, remains regally untouched.
Four massive corner towers (a la San Siro) will feed the new third tier.
Real still have to upgrade the existing seats and convert the remaining terraces, which will leave the club even harder up than now, and with an all-seat capacity of 86,000.
World Soccer rating: 8 (out of 10)



BUENOS AIRES

If only for the sheer number of large football grounds in the city, Buenos Aires can justly claim the title of Football Capital of the World.
At the last count there were 15 with capacities over 25,000, including Racing Club, based in neighbouring Avellaneda.
Two of the stadia are shared. Standards vary enormously, according to how hard up the clubs are and how tough the local safety authorities decide to be.
Name: Officially, Estadio Anonio Liberti, but El Monumental to Jose Publico.
Capacity: 77,000.
Opened: 1942, enlarged 1967-8 and 1978.
Big matches: World Cup Final 1978 and majority of Argentinian internationals.
● The home of mighty River Plate (left).
Not just a football stadium, but a massive sports centre with four training pitches, four basketball courts, two swimming pools, 12 tennis courts, a gym, hotel and restaurants.
Just right for a club nicknamed The Millionaires and situated in an upmarket part of BA's suburbs.
Monumental in scale if not in aesthetic sense, it has two oval-shaped tiers with red and white striped rows of seats, all open, and American-style towers and circulation ramps on the outside.
Suffered pre-World Cup embarrassment when sea water was used to irrigate the pitch — killing the grass. New pitch, laid hurriedly, was not up to the task.
World Soccer rating: 7 (out of 10)

Also in Buenos Aires:
B is for Boca, the working-class barrio in BA's port area, where River Plate's big rivals Boca Juniors play at their 58,800 capacity stadium — La Bombonera, the Chocolate Box.
Not much sweet about this concrete, high-rise, intimidating tiered bow.
Across town in the densely populated suburb of Liniers is the city's second venue used in the 1978 World Cup, the Estadio Jose Amalfitani, home of Velez Sarsfield.
More like a typical Spanish stadium: rectangular with open tiers on either side like giant slabs. Holds 49,300.

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WORLD SOCCER is published by IPC Magazines Ltd., Specialist Group, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.World Soccer must not be sold at more than the recommended selling price shown on the front cover. Sole Agents for Australia and New Zealand: Gordon & Gotch Ltd., South Africa: Central News Agency. Subscription facilities (Inland and Overseas) available through Quadrant Subscription Services, Oakfield House, 35 Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, W.Sussex. RH16 3DH. For North America inquiries: Subscription Department, P.O. Box 272, Oakfield House, 35 Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, United Kingdom. RH16 3FS. Telephone inquiries 0444 445555. All rights reserved and reproduction without permission strictly forbidden. Printed in England by TPL Printers (UK) Ltd., Harfleburj, nr. Kidderminster. Origination by Meridan Media Services Ltd., Peterborough. Registered atthePostOffice as newspaper. ISSN. 0043-9037. 2nd Class postage paid at Newark, NJ, U.S. Postmaster send address changes to WORLD SOCCER c/o Virgin Mailing and Distribution, 10 Camptown Road, Irvington,New Jersey. NJ 07111, USA.

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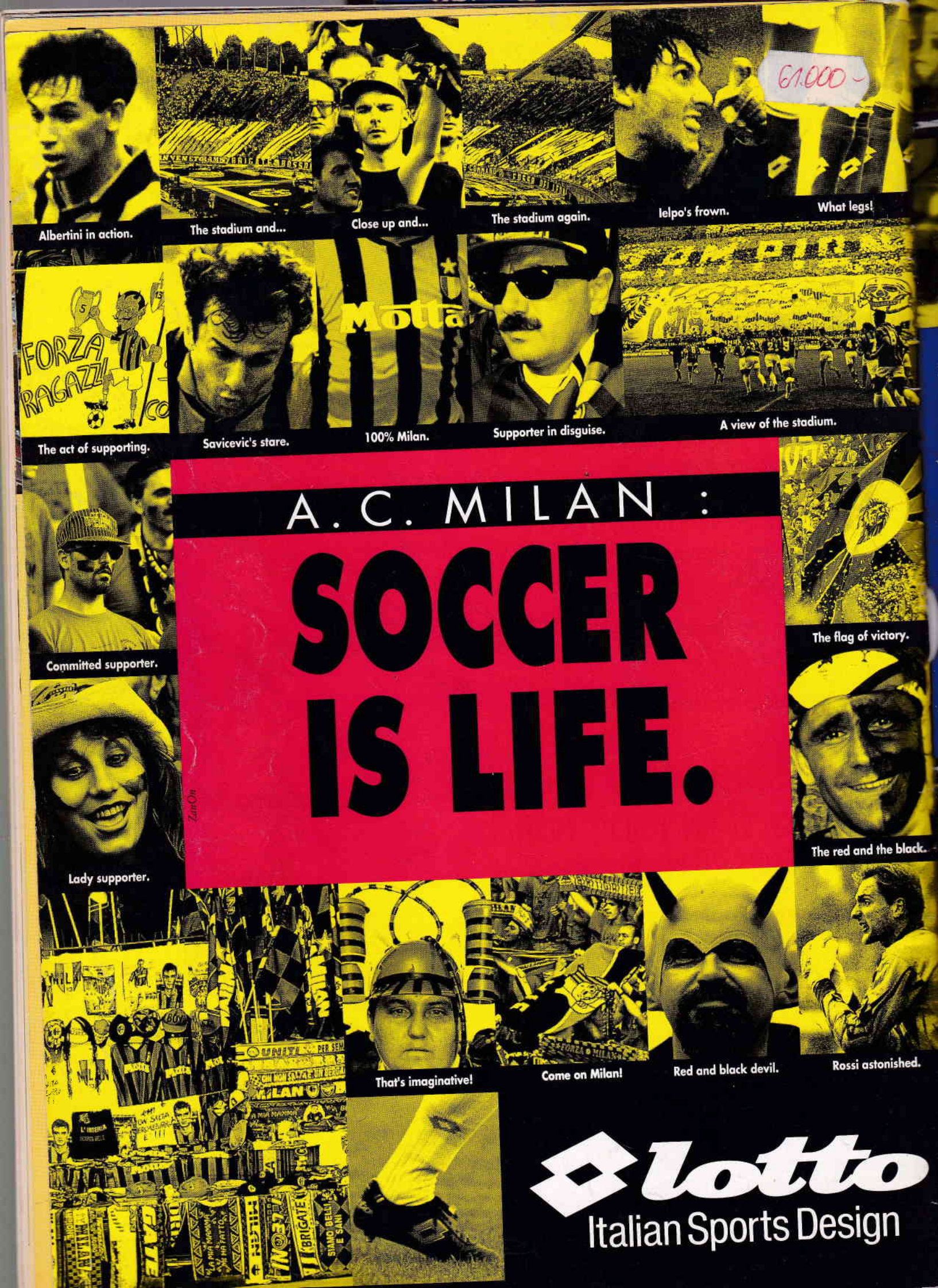
NOVEMBER ISSUE ON SALE 8th OCTOBER


61.000 -
Albertini in action.
The stadium and...
Close up and...
The stadium again.
Ielpo's frown.
What legs!
FORZA RAGAZZI
The act of supporting.
Savicevic's stare.
Motta
100% Milan.
Supporter in disguise.
A view of the stadium.
A.C. MILAN :
SOCCER IS LIFE.
Committed supporter.
The flag of victory.
Lady supporter.
The red and the black.
That's imaginative!
Come on Milan!
Red and black devil.
Rossi astonished.
lotto
Italian Sports Design